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JEWISH NEWS

February 2019 Shevat/Adar I 5779 Volume XVIII: Number 5 FREE

HMC special exhibits: Jehovah's Witnesses, Japanese American internment and the Rwandan genocide

Leslie Pardo, special to the WJN

The Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus in Farmington Hills has announced its newest special exhibits which run January 13 through April 1, 2019. The special exhibits include "Jehovah's Witnesses: Faith Under Fire," "Rwanda: Personal Images" and "The Tragedy of War: Japanese American Interment."

"We take our mission very seriously and remain committed to learning lessons from the Holocaust and applying what we have learned to other genocides. In a world still filled with hate and bigotry, this is more important than ever," said Rabbi Eli Mayerfeld, CEO, Holocaust Memorial Center. "The most important lesson we teach is that history is made through a series of choices and that every choice has a consequence. Choices by individuals have power."

The three special exhibits debuting at the Holocaust Memorial Center in January include:

Jehovah's Witnesses: Faith Under Fire.

A Christian community of 35,000 Jehovah's Witnesses in Germany and occupied lands refused to conform to the Nazi ideology of hate. They were thrown into Nazi camps and became eyewitnesses of Nazi genocide. The exhibition documents the story of Jehovah's Witnesses in the Holocaust and provides an in-depth look at ordinary people who followed their conscience in the face of tyranny. The exhibit was created by the Arnold-Liebster Foundation in Germany.

Vivian Bower

Rwanda: Personal Images-Artwork by Vivian Bower.

The exhibit is a series of pastel drawings by Vivian Bower about the genocide that took place in Rwanda during 1994 and 1995 when 500,000-1,000,000 Tutsis were brutally massacred by Hutu friends, family and colleagues. Bower's intention is to confront the truth and express her pain and horror. The exhibit is on loan from the Florida Holocaust Museum.

Japanese American Internment.

During World War II, 120,000 ethnic Japanese on the west coast were forced into a series of camps to live under armed guard. Two-thirds of them American citizens. The exhibit revisits the injustice of Japanese-American confinement by telling their stories and asking a question that resonates today: How could the United States imprison people without due process, based solely on their ethnicity? The exhibit was curated by the Kennesaw State University Museum of History and Holocaust Education in Georgia.

"Jehovah's Witnesses: Faith Under Fire," "Rwanda: Personal Images" and "The Tragedy of War: Japanese American Interment" are generously supported by Barbara and Jim Bayson, Julie and Peter Cummings, Robin and Leo Eisenberg, Nadine and David Farbman, Nancy and James Grosfeld, the Karp family, Jackie and Larry Kraft, Susie and Norman Pappas, Malke and Gary Torgow, and in memory of Barbara and Lee C. Saperstein and Craig A. Saperstein.

The special exhibits are open Sunday through Friday and are free with museum admission or membership. Docent-led tours are available at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 17 and March 31. Docent-led tours also are available at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 4, March 11 and March 25. Sign up for a tour or more information by calling (248) 553-2400, ext. 145. ■

2019 Belin Lecturer is James Loeffler

Kelsey Robinette Keeves, special to the WJN

On March 12, the Frankel Center will welcome Professor James Loeffler to the University of Michigan to deliver the 2019 David W. Belin Lecture in American Jewish Affairs. Loeffler's lecture, "Prisoners of Zion: American Jews, Human Rights, and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict," based on his recently published *Rooted Cosmopolitans: Jews and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century,* will explore how American Jews have become polarized over human rights issues related to both Israel and antisemitism.

James Loeffler

The David W. Belin Lecture in American Jewish Affairs was established at the University of Michigan in 1991, through a gift from the late David W. Belin, to provide an academic forum for the discussion of contemporary Jewish life in the United States. Previous speakers have included Deborah Lipstadt, Samuel Freedman, Lila Corwin Berman, and Ruth Messinger. Each lecture is subsequently published in the Belin Lecture Series.

"Global antisemitism has returned to the world in ways few ever anticipated after World War II," Loeffler explains. "For some in the Jewish world, the only solution is a renewed commitment to protecting human rights at home and abroad. For others in the Jewish world, the very phrase 'human rights' has become a *symbol* of today's antisemitism, especially in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict."

Loeffler is Jay Berkowitz Endowed Chair in Jewish History at the University of Virginia, where he teaches courses on Jewish and European history, legal history, and the history of human rights. *Rooted Cosmopolitans* explains the history of Jewish political activism in human rights through the stories of five Jewish activists, and shows how the idea of human rights has been intertwined with Jewish history in the last 70 years. It was named a "new and noteworthy" book by *The New York Times.*

The book began as a relatively narrow study of American Jewish political advocacy and legal diplomacy on behalf of Eastern

Continued on page 2

Fifty years of Feminist Activism Coming to Town

Paige Walker, special to the WJN

Engaging with and contributing to the University of Michigan and the surrounding Ann Arbor and Metro Detroit Jewish communities with dynamic public programs is a cornerstone of the Jewish Communal Leadership Program (JCLP). Every JCLP event creates opportunities for students to bring together University and community members to discuss and explore the challenging questions that animate their own ongoing engagement with Jewish community and identity. In particular, students organize an annual Communal Conversation, held on campus, that brings together community members and prominent Jewish leaders, educators, and activists to deepen discussion and understanding of core issues in American Jewish life. This year, in partnership with the University's Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, the Covenant Foundation, and the Jewish Women's Archive in Brookline, Massachusetts, JCLP is offering an extended and

quite remarkable series of public programs from March 13 through 17.

A special symposium, "Jewish Feminisms/American Visions: Perspectives from Fifty Years of Activism" will take place March 13 – 15th on the UM Ann Arbor campus, primarily at the School of Social Work. The symposium will bring an array of pioneering and contemporary feminist activists to Ann Arbor to consider the role of Jewish identity in the framing and development of second wave American feminism. Using as a starting point the interpretations offered by historian Joyce Antler in her recent book, *Radical Jewish Feminism*, the symposium will ask activists from the 1960s through today to explore the significance of Jewish identities in the development of the women's liberation movement and the impact of feminism on American Jewish culture, politics, and religion. In addition to conversations between veteran feminists and more recently-minted activists, the program will include a screening of the documentary *Heather Booth: Changing the World*

Continued on page 2

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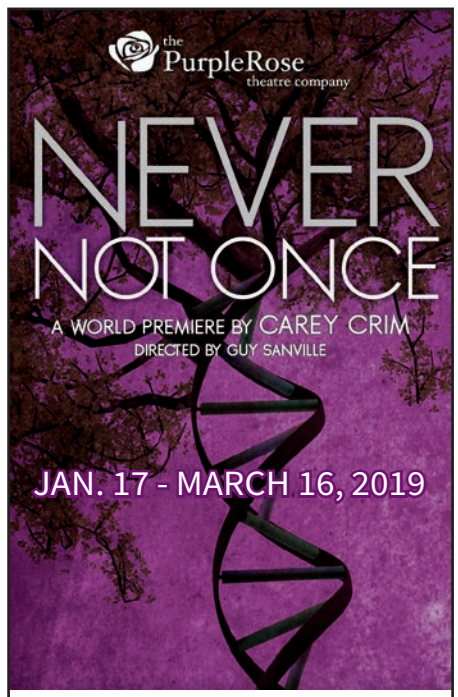

Eleanor, a biology major at Princeton, brings her boyfriend Rob home to meet her two moms. While there, she lets them know that she has hired a private investigator to help her find her biological father. She says, as a scientist, she is curious about her genetics. Allison, Eleanor's biological mom is insisting that Eleanor's father, a one night stand in college whose name Allison doesn't remember, never even knew she existed. Eleanor is sent on a journey to an unexpected and explosive answer to the question *"Where do I come from?"*
734.433.7673 or
PurpleRoseTheatre.org

From the Editor

First off, I want to thank Susie Ayer for entrusting me with this publication that she nurtured for 27 years as a service to the Jewish community of Washtenaw County. In my role as editor/publisher of the *Washtenaw Jewish News*, honoring her legacy of service to the community is my foremost intention. My hope is that every Jewish agency, congregation and organization will continue to use the WJN as an outlet for publicity and reflection on your good works. I hope, too, that individuals in the community will submit their own newsworthy activities, thoughtful and thought-provoking opinions, as well as their simchas and sorrows. I plan to expand the profiles, tributes, interviews and obituaries of individuals in our community. Please understand this as a request for your submissions.

Clare Kinberg

Growing up, *The St Louis Jewish Light* was my hometown Jewish paper. Bob Cohn, the *StLJL* editor for as long as I can remember, still comes into their office as the Editor Emeritus, and my brother, who has lived for nearly 40 years on the East Coast, still subscribes, because what happens in the community is vital to him and he knows it will be reported in the *Light*. In other words, understanding the importance of a local Jewish newspaper to its community is in my DNA.

Though I am from St. Louis, I have lived in New York City (well, Brooklyn), Seattle and Eugene, Oregon before moving to Ypsilanti in 2003. I mention these because the Jewish communities in each place have taught me important lessons, and each are dear to me in their own ways. Eugene has a small Jewish community and I originally moved there to be close to my brother, Rabbi Myron Kinberg z"l. I say of Eugene, yes the community of Jews is small, but I knew all of them. Myron was the rabbi in Eugene from 1978 to 1995. Yes, that's right, I said *the* rabbi, because for much of his time in Eugene, there was only one synagogue and he was its rabbi. Temple Beth Israel in Eugene served a congregation of Jews from every denomination: So many lessons learned about being an open, welcoming, growing, and porous container for Jewish diversity! I aim to make the WJN a meeting place for the rich diversity of interests and opinion of Washtenaw County's Jews.

Many in the community already know me as the librarian at Temple Beth Emeth (since 2012), and as the Communications Coordinator and Religious School director for the Reconstructionist Congregation. Before that, for twenty years, I was the managing and general editor of *Bridges: A Jewish Feminist Journal*, a biannual publication. So, I come to WJN with plenty of editing and publishing experience and I am excited to learn the specific quirks of editing a monthly newspaper.

This February issue has a center section devoted to summer camp ideas for Jewish kids. If you have kids or know anyone with kids, give it a look. If do you sign up, tell the camp you read about it in the WJN. (I'm learning the trade.)

When I was in 7th grade—1968, Parkway School district in St. Louis County—my English teacher gave me a biography of the muckraking journalist and activist, Lincoln Steffens. She wanted to set my sights on the possibilities of a career in journalism. Though I've long hoped to work on a newspaper, my life has been a curvaceous road leading to today's debut as editor of the WJN. Thank you, Susie, for handing me this adventure. I look forward to many years of service to the community as editor of the WJN. ■

Fifty years of Feminist Activism, continued from page 1

portraying the activist career of conference participant, Heather Booth, and a performance by klezmer music pioneer, Alicia Svigals. Svigals, a founding member of the Klezmatics and one of the world's leading klezmer violinists, will also present a one-woman show on Saturday evening, March 16, at Temple Beth Emeth.

Finally, the second-year JCLP students will conclude the conversation about Judaism and feminism with their own communal conversation, presented from noon to 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 17, entitled "The Jewish Future is Feminist." This program will feature an interactive panel with Rabbi Lizzi Heydemann (of Mishkan Chicago), Sarah Hurwitz (former speech writer for Al Gore, John Kerry, Hillary Clinton, and Michelle Obama), and April Baskin (most recently Vice President of Audacious Hospitality with the Union for Reform Judaism). These three dynamic young leaders will engage participants and each other in thinking about the opportunities for remarkable creativity and community-building that have marked their own professional journeys along with the very real challenges they have encountered within and beyond the Jewish community.

This March will certainly be a feminist and an exciting time for JCLP and the Ann Arbor Jewish community. Information about registering and event locations will be available on-line and publicized in the next issue of the *Washtenaw Jewish News*. In the meantime, please direct questions about any of these events or requests to be added to the JCLP email list to JCLP Program Coordinator Paige Walker at (734) 764-5392 or vpwalker@umich.edu. ■

2019 Belin Lecturer, continued from page 1

European Jewry between the two world wars, and morphed over time into a global history of Jewish involvement in both the Zionist movement and the modern human rights movements of the 20th century. Loeffler's work weaves together stories across five continents, seven languages, and eight decades.

Loeffler reasons that the people in his book would be shocked and disappointed by today's politically polarized climate and the amount of historical ignorance. Not because they also didn't argue over the meaning of human rights, but because they understood there was a need to work together to try to reach pragmatic global solutions.

Loeffler's lecture will help audiences understand that human rights are in crisis and will investigate how we got to today's political climate. "That means viewing the intertwined pasts of human rights and Zionism not as political fables but as complex, real chapters in history," he said. Human rights "grew out of the world of politics, and, particularly the world of post-World War I Zionism. Human rights were not the antidote to too much nationalism; they were an attempt to balance the nation-state with the new international order — for Jews and everyone else." The lecture will begin at 7:00 p.m., following a 6:30 pm reception in Forum Hall of Palmer Commons, 100 Washtenaw Ave. ■

WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

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Extra copies of the *Washtenaw Jewish News* are available at locations throughout Washtenaw County.

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JFS says February is the time to THRIVE

Joanne Brownstein Jarvi, special to the WJN

You've just come off of a hectic holiday season – and for some of us that started back in early November. You've been on the move since then, attending holiday parties, eating copious amounts of food and frantically trying to wrap up all of your open loops before the end of the year hits.

So when January rolled in and you finally had time to catch your breath, what did you do? If you are like most of us, you saddled yourself with resolutions and intentions that were going to be difficult to maintain throughout the month – let alone the year – because you were not fully prepared in mind, body and spirit.

Maybe you tried to take on new habits, attempted to abolish bad ones or tried to tackle new projects. It's highly likely, however, that you just did not give yourself the time to recharge your batteries and really reflect on the year that had just passed you by. By now you've either found a method to stick to your New Year's resolutions or you've given up completely.

If you fall into the latter, experts say February is the perfect month to reset your goals. Focus on making February the month to establish your baselines.

We all go to the dentist and doctor for check-ups, but few of us think to go to a therapist or counselor for a mental health check-up. Like any other part of our body, our minds need to be kept fit and healthy to enable us to not merely survive, but to thrive.

Research by a team of psychologists from the Department of Veterans Affairs found that even a single, 60-minute session can help people hit the ground running. After just one "motivational interview," participants were significantly more likely to enter a vocational rehabilitation program, and they stayed in the program for three months longer than a control group, says Lisa Mueller, PhD, a research associate on the study led by psychologist Charles Drebing, PhD.

A therapist at Ann Arbor's THRIVE Counseling often asks new clients a question developed by social worker Steve de Shazer: "If, by some miracle, you wake up tomorrow and the problem is gone, what would your life be like?" In answering this question, people reveal what they want most, whether it's a peaceful relationship with a spouse, a lifting of depression, or a more fulfilling job.

"What I am trying to do is help people get unstuck or back on track," he says. "That kind of model, of single session therapy, can be extremely effective getting people unstuck or to see something from a new perspective. You can say from the outset, let's see what I can do to be helpful to you in an hour or so and when the hour is over, the person can have gotten enough to make a change in his life."

Even if you made a single resolution to focus on the future, and to find some help, through reflection and planning, without the baggage of a worn out body and mind, wouldn't you have a higher chance of achieving what you set out to do?

May 2019 be a year of greater mental health and happiness!

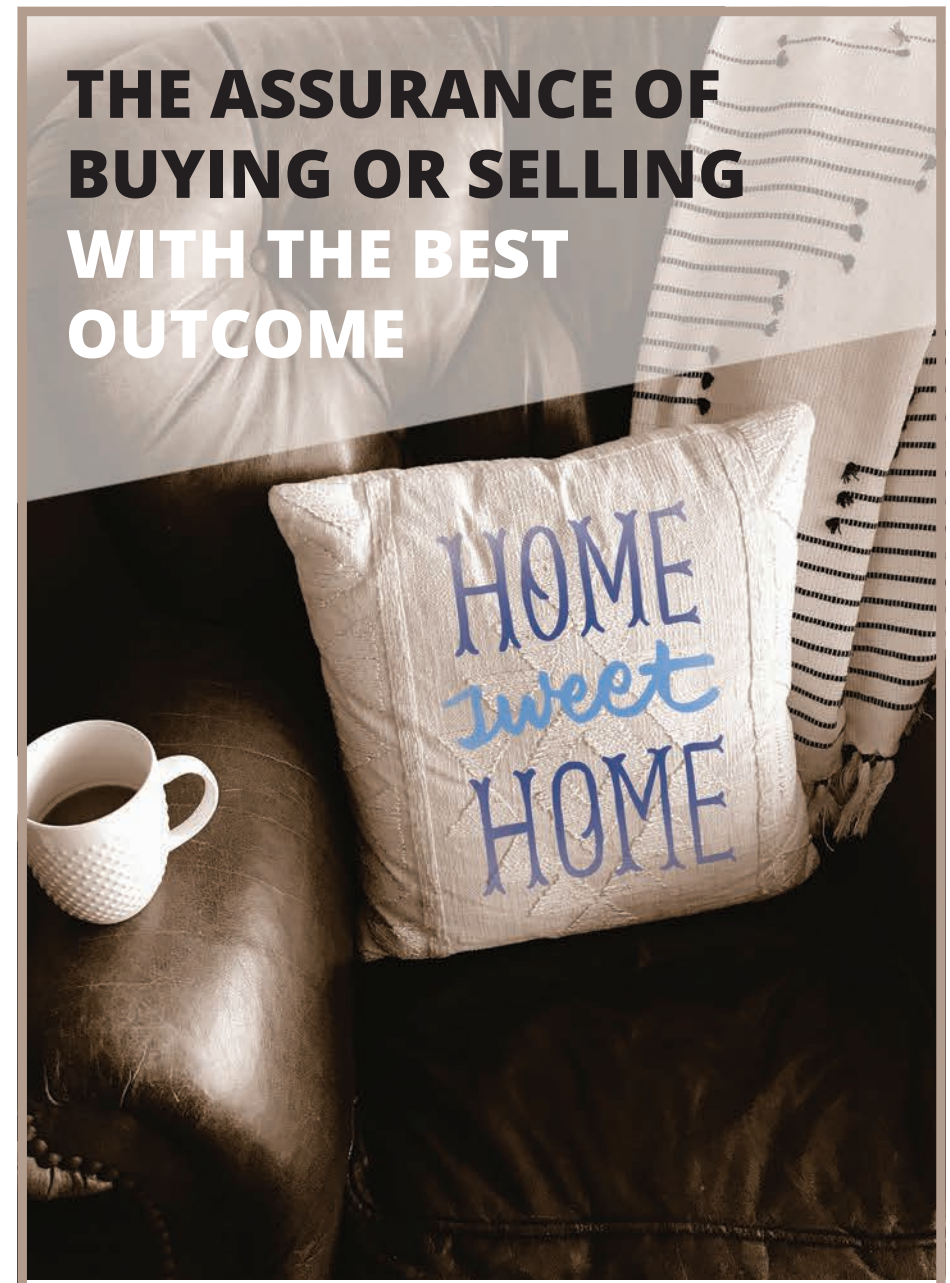
Start, again, now.

THRIVE Counseling is the clinical and behavioral counseling arm of Jewish Family Services. It is run as a social enterprise – clients who pay out of pocket or through insurance for their sessions help to subsidize the same service for their neighbors who cannot. ■

New Year, New Yiddish Group at the JCC

Rachael Hoffenblum, special to the WJN

Yiddish is experiencing a resurgence throughout the United States, and the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor has long been home to the weekly Yiddish Reading Group, which reads books by authors such as Sholem Aleichem, Sholem Asch, Malka Heifetz Tussman, Esther Kreitman, Kadya Molodowsky, and Isaac Bashevis Singer. There has also historically been a Yiddish conversation group at the Michigan League known as *Yidish tish* (literally "Yiddish table," like the kitchen table around which family and friends gather to *shmues* or chat), and a number of people were participating in both. Beginning Wednesday, February 13, 2019, the groups will try merging into a single unit under the established rubric *Yidish tish* with a half-hour of reading followed by a half-hour of conversation. This old-new group will meet in the Ann Arbor JCC Conference Room weekly on Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. to noon and will be open to all regardless of proficiency in reading or speaking Yiddish. For more information, contact Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 or Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@yahoo.com. ■



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Have You Had "The Conversation?"

Nehama Stampfer Glogower, special to the WJN

According to a 2013 national survey, 90% of Americans said that it was very important to have a conversation about end-of-life wishes – but only 27% have done so. If so many people want the conversation to happen, why have so few families talked about end-of-life desires? There are a variety of reasons: "It is just too awkward," "Mom would be upset if I bring it up," "My kids don't want to hear about this," "I don't know what to say," "I just don't have enough information," "It's too early to have that conversation," "I don't want to burden my kids."

The Conversation Project started when award winning journalist Ellen Goodman had to make end of life decisions for her beloved mother and realized that she didn't really know what was important to her mother, and on what basis she should make her decisions. Hoping to help other families avoid this type of crisis, she enlisted the support of professionals in bio-ethics and in the faith community to create a program that would help families have "the conversation."

On Sunday March 10th the Ann Arbor Jewish community will have a chance to learn some strategies for having the conversation. What constitutes a "good death?" What is a "hard death?" When is it time to turn the focus away from treatments that may be prolonging death rather than prolonging life? When can we pause and ask, "What is the goal here?" What does Jewish law and Jewish medical ethics have to say about withholding certain treatments? What if I change my mind? What if Mom or Dad develop dementia? What is the role of hospice? Most importantly, how can I identify the values that can guide a difficult decision?

Led by experienced professionals, including chaplains and social workers, we will address many of these questions. Attendees will leave with a plan of how to have the conversation and specific goals.

This program is sponsored by the Jewish Community Center and Jewish Family Services. For more information, please contact Nehama Glogower, nglogower@gmail.com. Please join us at the JCC, March 10th, from 4 – 6 p.m. ■

Join a Chai Mitzvah Group Now

Marci Sukenic, special to the WJN

Excitement is building throughout the community as the first Chai Mitzvah groups, in conjunction with the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, launch in January and February. Chai Mitzvah is a Jewish engagement program, new to the community, and is a great way to get involved, meet people, have meaningful discussion, explore social action and ritual projects, and learn alongside others. More than 40 people have already expressed interest and groups are just getting rolling in Ann Arbor. However, Chai Mitzvah is not a new program and has had success throughout the nation; Susan Glait of Bellville, Ontario, expresses, "Chai Mitzvah helped me create a closer network of Jewish friends." And Myrna Lawrence of Oak Park, IL says, "I feel deeply motivated to learn more and do more in my Jewish life." Chai Mitzvah hopes to spark this interest and bring these same sentiments to the Washtenaw community.

Chai Mitzvah is a year-long engagement program that meets one time per month with a cohort of 8-12 people, spanning from young learners to adults. It is "book-group style," which means that each participant and group can make of it what they want. Chai Mitzvah has five basic components, which can be tailored to each individual's own interests and objectives. Each participant:

1. Attends monthly meetings, which come with a brief reading and discussion guide developed by Chai Mitzvah, centered around a theme.
2. Chooses a topic that he/she would like to learn more about during the course of the year.
3. Identifies a ritual/spiritual practice to develop throughout the year.
4. Chooses a social action activity to participate in as an individual or within the group.
5. Celebrates the journey!

Groups can be formed though friendship groups, through congregations or organizations, geographical proximity, professional interest, preexisting groups, common interests…really, there is no limit. Interested in forming a group? Interested in joining a group? Please visit www.jewishannarbor.org/get-involved/chai-mitzvah or contact Marci Sukenic, Chai Mitzvah Community Coordinator at marci@jewishannarbor.org or (734) 677-0100, ext. 226. ■

Films Now Shown @ the J After Lunch Café

Rachael Hoffenblum, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor expanded its Lunch Café this past October from Tuesdays and Thursdays to include Wednesdays as well. Wednesday Lunch Café now includes a film screening with lunch served at noon, and films beginning at 12:30 p.m. Lunch café participants discuss possible films for the coming month and vote on the films to be shown. A variety of films have been screened over the last few months, including classics like *The Apartment* (1960), Jewish films like *The Chosen,* seasonal films like *Young Frankenstein* and *Dracula* (1931), and contemporary favorites like *Princess Bride* and *The Frisco Kid.* Films will be shown on February 6, 13, 20, and 27.

Local caterer, Karan Balmer, continues to provide a delicious lunch menu that is always meat-free and nut-free. A meal at Lunch Café costs $5.50 each, however, thanks to special funding provided to the Ann Arbor JCC from the Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development, those 60 and over can choose to pay the special price of $3.00 per lunch. Registration forms are required in order for Washtenaw County to maintain its funding of the reduced senior lunch program. Menus are available at www.jccannarbor.org/lunch-cafe.

All the programs, classes, and Lunch Café are open to the entire community regardless of membership status. More information is available at jccannarbor.org or by calling (734) 971-0990. Lunch must be reserved at least one day in advance by calling (734) 971-0990. For more information, contact Rachael Hoffenblum, operations manager and adult programs coordinator at (734) 971-0990 or rachaelhoffenblum@jccannarbor.org. ■

Tribute to Susan

On the afternoon of January 13, 2019, the Ann Arbor Jewish community gathered to honor Susie Ayer on her retirement from editing the *Washtenaw Jewish News* after 27 years. Well over one hundred people enjoyed the tributes and reminiscences in a "faux" issue of the WJN, where many acknowledged with gratitude Susie's integrity, vision, skills, and patience. Appreciation to Eileen Freed, Nancy Margolis, the community's organizations, and many other individuals who organized and hosted the tribute. Mazel tov, Susie! ■

Rena Basch and Lauren Zinn

Susan Ayer and Gordon White

Judy Baumann and Susan Ayer

Elizabeth Ayer, Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, and Susan Ayer

Marilyn Krimm, Ken Fisher, Phyllis and David Herzig

Eileen Freed and Rita Gelman

Susan holding the "faux" newspaper

Rabbi Ora Nitkin-Kaner Installed under Community-Crafted Chuppah

Emily Eisbruch, special to the WJN

The Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation (AARC) celebrated a joyous milestone on December 15, 2018 with the installation of Rabbi Ora Nitkin-Kaner. A special shabbat morning service featured Rabbi Ora chanting Torah and addressing the congregation under a community-crafted chuppah. Rabbi Shelley Goldman, Assistant Rabbi at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck in Indianapolis, and a classmate of Rabbi Ora's from rabbinical school, was the guest speaker.

"Rabbi Ora has brought so much to our congregation," comments Debbie Field, AARC board chair. "She provides erudite, poetry-filled services, compassionate pastoral care, and brings depth to our life cycle events. We feel fortunate to have her as the AARC's rabbi and were delighted to have the opportunity to honor her at the installation."

The community-crafted chuppah, which formed the artistic centerpiece of the installation, was created by over 35 community members, many of whom decorated cloth squares using techniques such as applique, fabric painting, and embroidery. The squares were pieced together on a rich blue background with a backing fabric reminiscent of a tallit. The installation also featured music presented by AARC members and a lovely luncheon coordinated by a dedicated team of volunteers.

Born and raised in Toronto, Rabbi Ora graduated from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College (RRC) in Philadelphia in 2016. While a student, she received numerous scholarships and awards and interned in congregations, campuses, adult and youth education, community organizing, and chaplaincy. After graduating from the RRC, she spent a year working as an oncology chaplain at New Orleans' East Jefferson General Hospital prior to moving to Ann Arbor as the AARC's rabbi in September 2017.

The AARC is an open and welcoming Jewish community with membership that is diverse and inclusive. We offer a religious school that is enjoyable and engaging for kids, and also offer learning opportunities for teens, families and adults. For more information on the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation, please visit the website at https://aarecon.org/ or call (734) 445-1910. ■

Rabbi Nadav Caine Installed as Rabbi of Beth Israel Congregation

Elliot Sorkin, special to the WJN

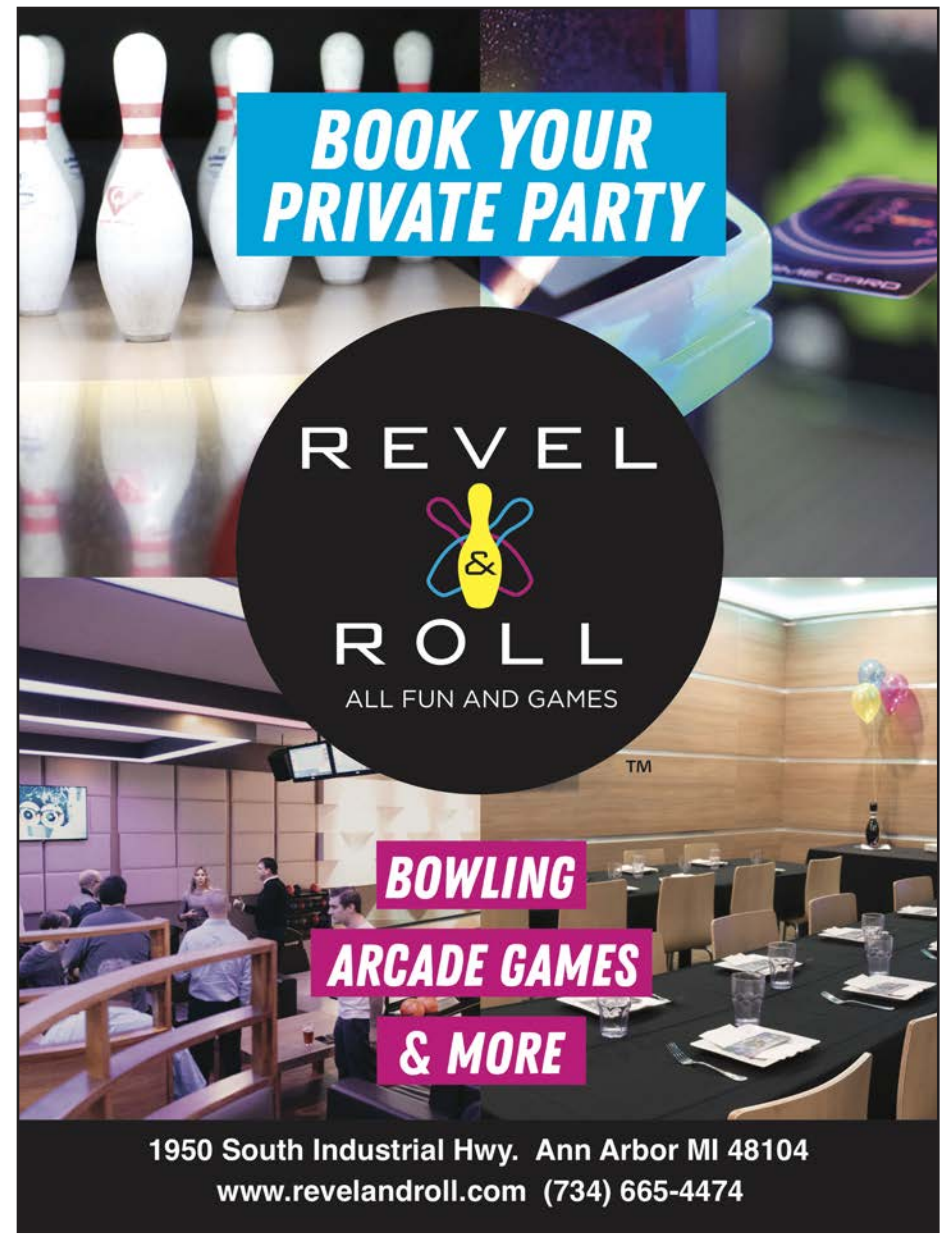
On the evening of Saturday, December 8, the seventh night of Hanukkah, Beth Israel Congregation hosted a celebration welcoming Rabbi Nadav Caine, affectionately known as "Rav Nadav." With more than 300 people in attendance, Rabbi Caine, his wife Lynne, and his two children led the Havdalah service opening the event. This was followed by welcoming remarks from Bob Blumenthal, Beth Israel's president, and from Rabbi Robert Dobrusin who is now Beth Israel's Rabbi Emeritus. Rabbi Caine's father, Rabbi Ivan Caine, performed the installation, and challenged the congregation to be not simply successful with its new rabbi, but to try to set an example that other congregations would want to emulate.

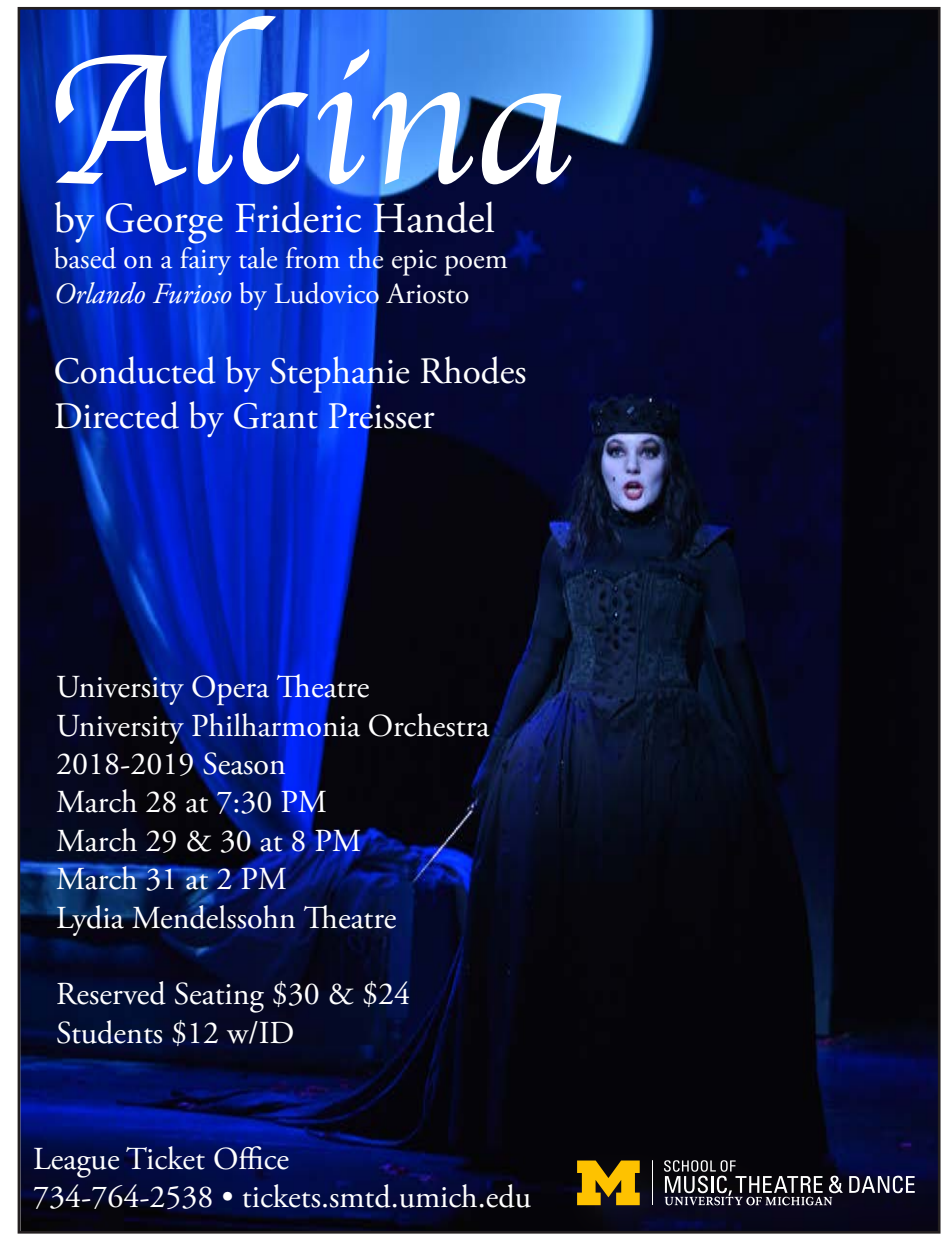
Rav Nadav then spoke, noting "If there is anything that I want to accomplish, it is to have fun with all of you as we explore the Jewish tradition and what it means in this generation and the world in general. I want us to have a sense that we are privileged to be characters in God's story, rather than God being a character in our story."

Bob Carbeck, Beth Israel's immediate past president, presented Rav Nadav with a beautiful stained-glass mosaic of a Hanukkiah (commissioned from Beth Israel's Ritual Assistant, Ron Sussman). The evening concluded with the lighting of a Hanukkiah, while seven members of the Clergy Planning Committee read seven statements of appreciation, one each for the number of candles lit that night.

Rav Nadav hails originally from Philadelphia. He took an academic path to the rabbinate. After undergraduate and graduate studies in religion and philosophy at Princeton (AB '88) and Harvard (MTS '93), he studied philosophical models of religious practice under the direction of Dr. Arnold Eisen at Stanford University for ten years while teaching widely in Jewish education in the San Francisco Bay Area. When Dr. Eisen left Stanford to serve the Jewish community directly as Chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, Nadav followed suit. He left his dissertation writing and enrolled at the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies in Los Angeles where he was ordained as a Conservative rabbi. He served as the leader of Ner Tamid Synagogue in San Diego for eleven years before coming to Beth Israel in 2018.

Rav Nadav's passion is teaching the interconnections among the mystical, historical, scientific, and psychological dimensions of Judaism, and particularly the ways of Jewish practice he calls "practical holiness." His podcasts can be accessed at http://ravnadav.podbean.com. ■





Congregations

TBE Events for February 2019

Delving into the Prayer Book: An Exploration of the Structure, Meaning and Practices of the Jewish Worship Service

Sundays, February 3, 10, 17 & 24, 3:30 p.m., Adult Lounge.

Join Cantor Hayut to learn about the Jewish Worship service using music and the recitation of the prayers. Because we will use *Mishkan Tefillah*, our transliterated prayer book, knowledge of and/or the ability to read Hebrew is an asset but is not essential. Contact Cantor Hayut, cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org, with questions.

Families with Young Children (FYC): Tot Shabbat Service

Fridays, February 1, 8 & 15, 5:45 p.m., TBE Sanctuary
5:45 p.m. | Tot (0–5 year olds)
Shabbat Services with Rabbi Whinston and Cantor Hayut
6:15 p.m. Dinner for Tot Shabbat | 6:45 p.m. Shira Service.

All of your favorite songs led by TBE's tot team, Cantor Hayut and Rabbi Whinston. Join us for macaroni and cheese, fish sticks, applesauce, and a salad bar immediately following the short service. Dinner is just $5 per person. Buy a punch card ahead of time for a discounted price. Punch cards are available in the TBE office.

Weekly Lunch & Learn

Fridays, February 1, 8, 15 & 22, TBE Adult Lounge, Noon.

Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch.

Women of TBE: Historical Novel Reading Group

Mondays, February 11, 12:30 p.m., TBE Library.

The WTBE Reading Group meets on the second Monday of each month, October through June. February's book is by Barbara Hanbly, *A Free Man of Color*, 1997. Contact Molly Lindner, burnham@umich.edu.

Torah Study

Saturdays, February 2, 9, 16 & 23, 8:50 a.m.

Join us for this weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston.

Women's Torah Study

Mondays, February 11 & 15, 7:00 p.m.

An in-depth study and lively discussion of the week's Torah portion led by Cantor Regina Hayut. The group will explore various passages from the portion looking at several translations and commentaries from a variety of scholars from Talmudic times to the modern day. No Hebrew knowledge necessary to participate in the discussion. For questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org.

Families with Young(ish) Children: Monthly Playground Meet-Up

Sundays, February 24, 10:00 a.m., Rotating Parks in Ann Arbor

TBE wants to find more ways to connect socially! Please join us for a meet-up. These events are for children 0-10 years old. Questions? Contact Beth Pearson, bethlpearson@gmail.com.

Guitar-led Shabbat Service

Fridays, February 22, 6:30-8:30 p.m., TBE Sanctuary

A special, song-filled, musical celebration with singing, dancing, guitar, and a big dose of ruach. It's how we provide another gateway to prayer. This service takes the place of Shabbat Achat and falls on the fourth Friday of each month.

Euchre Night

Saturday, February 2, 8:00 p.m., TBE Adult Lounge

Grab a partner or come alone! All levels welcome. Contact Dave Ostreicher, djostrei@umich.edu, with questions. ■

February Activities at Beth Israel

Quiz Night

Saturday, February 2, 7 p.m.

This 12th annual Beth Israel Quiz Night promises to be another fun competitive evening for adults. This social program is a team based multi-media trivia game. Whether one comes with their own team or forms one at the game, participants are sure to have a great time as they work together to answer trivia questions, decipher puzzles, and complete other challenges in order to earn the title Trivia Masters.

The cost is $10 per person, which can be paid at the door. You can also register online by using the link on the Beth Israel homepage, www.bethisrael-aa.org.

World Wide Wrap XIX

Sunday, February 3, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

About the time two NFL football teams begin wrapping athletic tape in preparation for Super Bowl LIII, Conservative Jews around the world – and at Beth Israel - will be wrapping themselves in tefillin for World Wide Wrap XIX. This time the entire Beth Israel Religious School will be joining (with special licorice string substituting for tefillin for the youngest students) the intrepid tefillin wearing adults. Afterwards all tefillin wearers will sit down for a hearty pancake breakfast (new this year), but only after our annual Polar Bear Photo in the out-of-doors.

The World Wide Wrap was created 19 years ago to help people learn or in many cases relearn how to wrap tefillin and why it has always been an important practice. For people who have never put on tefillin before (or think you have forgotten) there are spare sets available and volunteers available to assist anyone in learning how. This event will be led by Rav Nadav.

Tot Family Bowling

Sunday, February 3, 2 – 4 p.m.

Tot families are invited to enjoy a fun filled afternoon of bowling at Revel and Roll.

This program is recommended for children up to six years old. There is a fee of $25.00 per family. Contact Sarah Klein at skleing@bethisrael-aa.org for more information.

Shabbat Dinner for 20's and 30's with Rav Nadav

Friday, February 8, 5 p.m.

Rav Nadav hosts a Shabbat dinner at his home for individuals and families. Children are welcome and childcare is provided. RSVP to Sarah Klein at sklein@bethisrael-aa.org.

Shabbat Limmud

Saturday, February 16, 9 a.m.

Adults are invited for Torah study over coffee and cake. The discussions, led by Rabbi Dobrusin, are informal, lively and participatory. The study begins with traditional texts and participants add their own thoughts on the Torah, Haftarah portion of the week, or other traditional texts.

Tot Shabbat and Mini Minyan

Saturdays, Feb. 9 and 23, 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat is Beth Israel's special Shabbat morning program for preschoolers and their parents with songs, stories, and prayers, plus the Shabbat "Mystery Box."

Mini-Minyan is Beth Israel's service for elementary school age children. The service includes Shabbat prayers and fun educational activities. For more information contact Sarah Klein at sklein@bethisrael-aa.org.

Jewish Book and Tschotchke Exchange

Sunday, February 24, 5 – 7 p.m.

Participants are asked to bring the tchotchkes and Jewish books – up to 10 books and 15 tchotchkes – they wish to get rid of to this exchange event. It is an afternoon of trading, schmoozing and reminiscing. (If the items are not exchanged by the end of the program, they must be taken home again.) Contact sklein@bethsirael-aa.org for more information.

All of Beth Israel's events, educational offerings, and recreational programs are open to the general community. If you would like further information, please call 665-9897 or visit www.bethisrael-aa.org, or Beth Israel's Facebook page. ■

Campus

Michigan Hillel's 5th Annual ShabUM Event Its Biggest Yet

Stacy Carroll, special to the WJN

On Friday, November 16, University of Michigan Hillel held their 5th Annual ShabUM (Shabbat Across Campus) event. While Hillel offers free Shabbat services and dinner every Friday evening, ShabUM is the one week in which Hillel closes its doors after services and empowers its student leaders to host their community of friends for a Shabbat meal in their own homes.

This feature makes ShabUM truly a campus-wide Shabbat celebration. Students, whether living in a residence hall, Greek house, or off-campus, are encouraged to take ownership over their Shabbat experience by hosting their own Shabbat dinner, often injecting their own family traditions, foods, songs, or interesting themes to the evening. The 2018 ShabUM attracted a record number of both student hosts and participants and became a flagship event of Hillel's Michigan campus. Over 85 hosts sites could be attended all throughout campus and Ann Arbor, attended by more than 1,600 students.

Michigan Hillel makes the event particularly special for students by meeting with each host prior to the event to help them plan what is often their first foray into serving as Shabbat hosts. They discuss how to invite guests, plan for seating, determining blessing leaders, and of course, what to serve their guests. Hillel has received wonderful grant support from The William Davidson Foundation to subsidize food costs for hosts as well as provide each host with a "ShaBag" containing a plethora of Shabbat gifts such as a uniquely branded Kiddush cup and challah cover, glass candle holders with candles, a blessing card, Shabbat host guide, grape juice, and two challahs.

Yoav Jacob ('20) from Ann Arbor served as the Student Chair of the ShabUM Committee. He worked tirelessly for this event and was very pleased with the results, saying "It was truly amazing to see all the work I put in for this year's ShabUM come into fruition with record numbers of guests and hosts— many whom were hosting a Shabbat dinner for the first time ever."

Lily Barash ('20) from West Bloomfield and also a ShabUM Committee member, found ShabUM to be a meaningful experience. "The purpose of ShabUM is for students to understand that they can celebrate Shabbat however they choose. I loved hearing and feeling the enthusiasm among participants in the days leading up to ShabUM. It is so wonderful that students are proud to be a part of the Jewish community and the Hillel community at Michigan."

In addition to the 85 campus locations, 21 alumni, living across the country as well as in Israel, virtually joined students by hosting their own ShabUM meals on the same evening.

In addition to ShabUM, Michigan Hillel provides Jewish students on campus with numerous opportunities to further engage in Jewish education, practice, and building their community through similar year-round programs such as their Host At Home program. ■

Tribute

Mazel tov to Elliot H. Gertel on his retirement

Beth Snyder and Barbara Alvarez, special to the WJN

Elliot H. Gertel has retired from his endowed position as the Irving M. Hermelin Curator of Judaica, culminating nearly 20 years of dedicated service to the University of Michigan Library. Elliot worked for the Library as the Curator of Judaica and liaison to the Jean and Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, initially as part of the Library's Near East Division in the Area Programs unit and later, on the International Studies team. Since 2014, Elliot also served as curator of the Jewish Heritage Collection in the Special Collections Library (now known as SCRC or Special Collections Research Center).

Elliot H. Gertel

Elliot was an outstanding curator of the Judaica collections and left an important legacy to the University. Under his stewardship, the Judaica Collections increased to well over 150,000 titles, with strengths in Modern Hebrew literature, Jewish history, history of Israel, Judaism, Hebrew Bible, Holocaust studies, and Yiddish studies. Among Elliot's noteworthy additions to the collections are the extensive Alterman Collection of Passover Haggadahs, a number of art books by or about the celebrated Polish-born Jewish American artist Arthur Szyk, a set of Sephardi Biblical commentaries, and numerous rare volumes in Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino, and Western languages, along with art books, portfolios, and artifacts.

Elliot's curatorial expertise was in evidence in many of the exhibitions on display at the Library and at the Frankel Center, including recent exhibitions on Haggadahs and *pushkes* (charity boxes). In 2017, in conjunction with the bicentennial celebration of the University, he curated a major exhibition in the Special Collections Library entitled "Striving to Stimulate Serious Thought: Jewish Scholarly and Cultural Life at Michigan Across Two Centuries."

Elliot made lasting contributions to Jewish studies and the community through research, teaching, and presentations, and to the profession through multiple roles in service to the Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL), the Jewish Information Committee of the American Library Association (ALA) Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT), and the ALA Reference and User Services Association (RUSA) Sophie Brody Medal Committee, which annually recognizes and awards outstanding works of adult Jewish fiction and non-fiction published in the United States. He has served in numerous capacities in AJL including as president of the Research Libraries, Archives, and Special Collections (RAS) Division and is currently beginning his 11th consecutive year as AJL's liaison to the ALA. He has tirelessly worked on forging a strong connection between the AJL and ALA, organized conference programs, moderated panels, and presented at numerous AJL annual conferences.

Elliot's passion for and expertise in Yiddish left a lasting impact on the University of Michigan. Through collection building, facilitating a weekly Yiddish conversational group, and teaching Yiddish classes, Elliot has become, as noted by Jeffrey Veidlinger, Director of the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, "an important member of the Yiddish community here at Michigan, contributing to our global reputation as a leading center of Yiddish studies."

Elliot's communal activities outside of the University are also notable. He served for 18 years on the JCC Book Festival Committee and nearly as long on the Ann Arbor Jewish Film Festival Committee. He also served two consecutive three-year terms on the JCC Board of Directors from 2006-2012. His presentations to Jewish community groups in Michigan and Ohio included "So Near and Yet So Foreign: An Illustrated Tour of the Jewish Renaissance in Cuba" and "Hidden in Plain Sight: The Seventy-Eight Year Journey from Carton to Collection Shelf of Rare Sixteenth and Seventeenth Century Italian Hebraica at Michigan."

While he has retired from the University of Michigan Library, Elliot plans to continue to be active in the community and his professional organizations. Congratulations to Elliot on his retirement! ■

Rabbis' Corner

The Chassidic Approach to Repentance Serving God With Joy, Repent With Joy

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein, special to the WJN

The Shabbat of February 2, we will be reading the Torah portion of Mishpatim. Chapter 23, verse 5 of the *parsha* speaks about the responsibilities people have to one another and also to the property of others. In particular, the case of a person who is going down the street and sees a donkey, even one belonging to his enemy, collapsed under the weight of its burden. One might be inclined to think that, because it belongs to your enemy, it would be acceptable to pass by the situation without lending assistance. However, the Torah says no. One is obligated to help unload the donkey to relieve it from its load and to repack it in a way that is acceptable to the donkey's limits. This is the literal interpretation of the biblical passage.

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein

The Ba'al Shem Tov, the founder of the Chasidic movement, however, offers a deeper interpretation of the above scenario. The reference to the donkey is not only to a physical one, but also to a person's own spiritual "donkey" (Heb. *chamor*) — which is the physical body (Heb. *chomer*). Sometimes a person will think that their body is the primary obstacle in their service to God. One might view the body as an enemy to the Godly soul — against anything spiritual or holy. Also, the body views itself as overburdened with the load of doing mitzvahs and serving God. So it feels like doing mitzvahs and good deeds are a burden — an overwhelming burden to the extent that it collapses under the weight. So a person might think to ignore the body and not take care of it or listen to its demands. They might think that in order to become closer to God, the body should be broken through fasting and other ascetic afflictions. However, once again, the Torah says no. Just like we are not allowed to ignore our enemy's overburdened donkey, we are not allowed to let our bodies be broken under the duties of serving God. Just like we must take steps that allow the donkey to continue its service to its master, so too we must use our bodies in a way that allows us to effectively serve our master — God.

In the Ba'al Shem Tov's times, the prevailing thought was that fasting and otherwise afflicting the body was the way to rectify our service to God. But he said no, that's not the way to bring the light of God into the body. On the contrary, one has to see to it that the body is healthy and taken care of so that it may be used effectively in the service of God. The Ba'al Shem Tov emphasized not breaking the body.

Similarly, his disciple, The Maggid of Mezerich, taught his very spiritual son to be careful and make sure that the body is kept healthy. He told his son, if there is a small hole in the body it can cause a big hole in the soul. Simply stated, if the physical body is impeded in its performance of Mitzvot, the soul suffers. The merit of performing Mitzvot is spiritual but they can only be performed by a physical body.

One might ask that this idea of the necessity of a healthy body in order to effectively perform Mitzvot was not original to the Ba'al Shem Tov. It existed long before his time. In the *Code of Law*, which was compiled a couple of hundred years prior, it is stated that one has no right to afflict or abuse the body. Even withholding food or drink is prohibited. Five hundred years prior to the *Code of Law*, the Rambam also writes that the body has to be healthy and complete in order to serve God.

So we see that this principle precedes the Ba'al Shem Tov and his revelations of Chassidus, so what was the Ba'al Shem Tov's innovation? According to the *Code of Law* the body reference is to a person doing *teshuva* (repentance). God entrusted us with a body in order that we should perform His will, so we should take care of it on a day to day basis. However, if a person has sinned and needs to repent it is natural to think that the way to help and cleanse oneself is to afflict or otherwise punish the body. The pain and affliction would seem to atone for the wrongdoing. But the Ba'al Shem Tov says no. Even when one desires to do *teshuva* (repent) it must be done through having a healthy body. Chassidus teaches us this new approach to serving God — that one can repent by working with the body as opposed to working against or trying to break the body.

Chassidus teaches us that the power of *teshuva* (repentance) and cleansing of our wrongdoings is to be done with simcha (happiness) and joy and a good heart. This is a preparation for the coming of the Moshiach (Messiah). For when Moshiach comes, the physical world will come to its full completion and correction. Then we will see the advantage that the physical world has over the spiritual world. This is what Chassidus teaches us — that we should bring out the good and joyous qualities of having the physical body. One does not have to fast and afflict the body. On the contrary, the approach is one of simcha and healthy wholesomeness. As King David writes in Psalm 100, serve God with joy. We can accomplish much more that way than through hurting and afflicting the body. ■

Federation

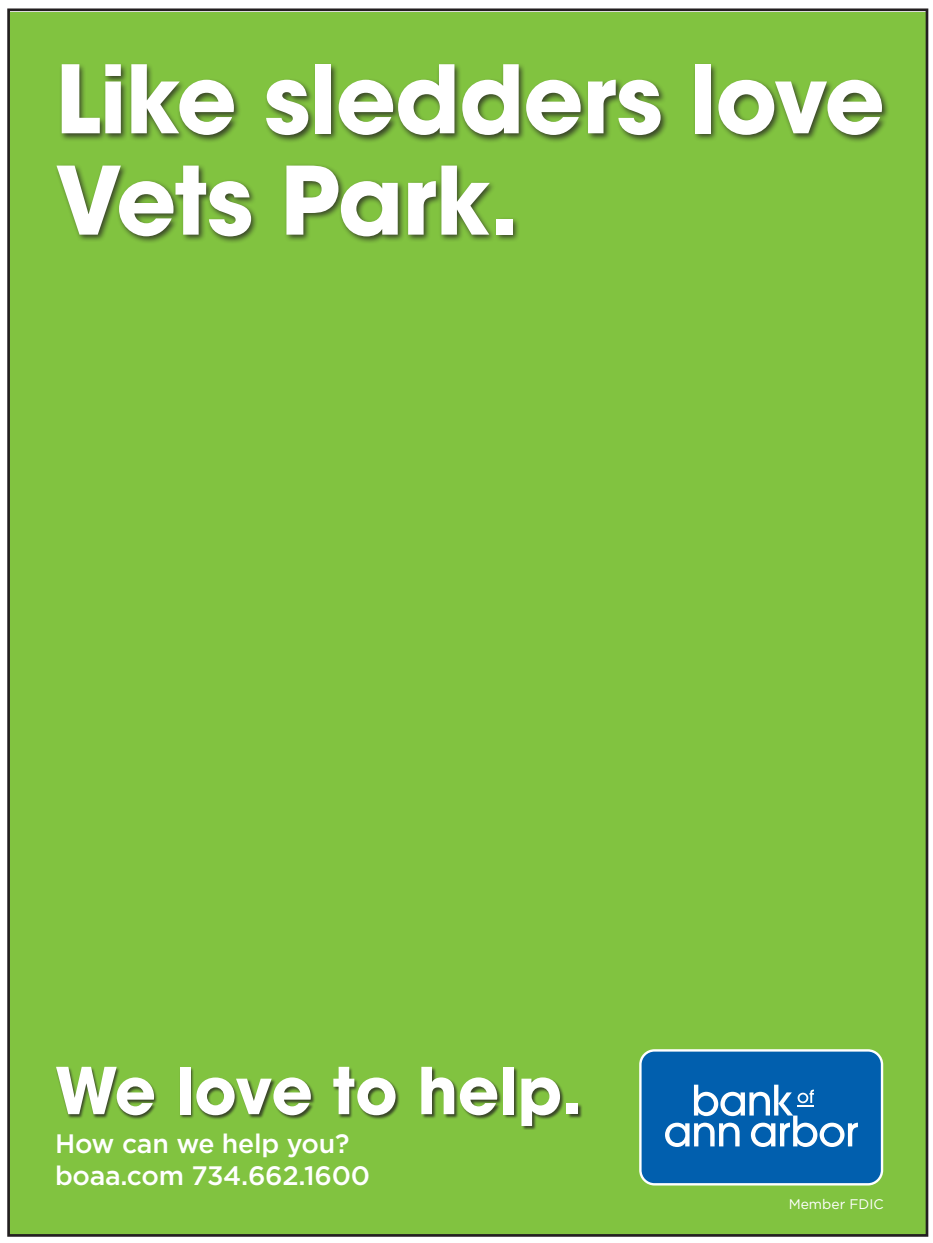
2018 Main Event – What a Night!!

Sharyn J. Gallatin, Esq, special to the WJN.

On December 6, 2018, the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor hosted its 18th Annual Main Event at the Towsley Auditorium at Washtenaw Community College. The event, co-chaired by Roberta and Larry Tankanow, Alyse Tankanow, and Joe Cohen and Jennifer and Andy Tankanow, was attended by over 330 people who enjoyed a festive Chanukah candle lighting and wonderful entertainment by Mentalist, Sidney Friedman. The event, which included a raffle to raise money for children's programming, a pre-glow for younger donors, and a dessert performance by University of Michigan Hillel's Kol HaKavod was a blast and to date, has raised over $130,000.■

Sidney Friedman with Main Event's co-chairs Andrew Tankanow, Jennifer Tankanow, Roberta Tankanow, Alyse Tankanow, and Joe Cohen

Jewish Young Professional attending this year's first Pre-Glow included Erin Brown, Josh Fryd, Ariel Freed, Aaron Struminger, Marni Jacobson, and Jenny Gordon



A Journey into History

Jennifer Rosenberg, special to the WJN

This fall, the fifth grade class at Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor had an opportunity to explore the "Traveling Suitcase," an exhibit on-loan to HDS from the National Museum of American Jewish History.

The exhibit includes reproductions of things a young woman named Eva Baen had with her when she immigrated from Ukraine to the United States in 1913. Through object-based inquiry — careful examination and consideration of items such as Baen's passport, some embroidery, an English language practice book, work documents, and the flag she received when she became a citizen — students uncovered the story of a real immigrant. They learned how to examine primary source materials and draw conclusions about artifacts.

Students were guided through these inquiries by Judaic Studies teacher Lisa Bernstein, who had the opportunity this past summer to spend time at the National Educators Institute (NEI) at the National Museum and to learn from a group of experts about teaching American Jewish history. The program afforded special attention to the study and use of artifacts as "texts," and it relied on a range of approaches and methods that were easily adaptable to the fifth grade's examination of the Traveling Suitcase.

The NEI approach first calls for examination of an artifact and simple acknowledgement of what one sees — engaging the item without interpretation. Then, it calls on learners to think about the object and to consider what it might represent or express. Finally, it encourages speculation — hypothesizing about how the artifact might have been used or the stories that might lie behind it.

"While at the NEI," Bernstein explained, "I had the opportunity to perform a similar exercise with a Rosh Hashanah greeting card from 1909 depicting 'Matron America' greeting a family of new immigrants." "The colors, symbolism, body language, and facial expressions were fascinating to explore, and it was especially interesting when we then reconsidered the object in light of a wide range of texts — including a passage from the Talmud, Emma Lazarus's famous poem *The New Colossus*, a quote from W.E.B. Du Bois, and more."

Working through the process herself gave Bernstein an invaluable opportunity to experience the exploration and sense of wonder inspired by this method. Her students were equally engaged and excited when it was their turn. Some of their most dramatic realizations happened when they tried to put themselves in Eva Baen's shoes. "I pack more than that when I go on a sleepover!" exclaimed fifth grade student, Molly Greenberg. This project was made possible by a generous gift from Ami and Prue Rosenthal who attended a final presentation where the students offered their reflections. "I'm so impressed with the maturity, curiosity, and interpretations of these young people. This is such a wonderful way to 'live' history," Prue Rosenthal said after the presentation.

Over the course of the school year, through HDS's "family history project," Bernstein's fifth graders will have additional opportunities to rely on these approaches toward historical inquiry. Students have already begun compiling a scrapbook with their family trees and with information about themselves, their names, and their family members. Students have also been asked to locate and write about a document, an heirloom, and an immigration story from their family. Together with works of fiction and non-fiction that share stories about Jewish immigration in the late 1800's and early 1900's, these artifacts will serve as texts that help students to construct a vivid account of the experiences of Jewish immigrants in their own families and beyond.

For more information about Hebrew Day School or to schedule a personal tour, please contact admissions@hdsaa.org or call (734) 971-4633. ■

PJ Library® Helps Families Celebrate Jewish Life

Clara Silver, special to the WJN

Families in the greater Ann Arbor area raising Jewish children will now have more opportunities to participate in Jewish life, thanks to an opportunity to reimburse families up to $100 to create their own Jewish-inspired experiences to share with neighbors, family and friends – no strings attached. The Get Together program is available to members of PJ Library, the flagship program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation (HGF) that sends free Jewish books to more than 600,000 kids around the world. Ann Arbor's PJ Library is administered by the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor.

Applications for the Get Together program opened on Monday, November 26, 2018. PJ Library and PJ Our Way™ families currently living in the greater Ann Arbor area are invited to apply to host up to 3 gatherings through PJ Library Get Together until the application closes on Tuesday, April 30, 2019. Applications and more information can be found online at pjlibrary.org/GetTogether2018.

The Get Together program is designed to help build social connections among families and encourage them to engage in Jewish life, programming, or learning. Part of a strategy to expand Jewish engagement in the United States and Canada, the Get Together funds have been used for Shabbat-themed experiences, baking or crafts, book clubs, and parent-only evenings. Get Togethers happen when and how families want to experience them.

Jacob M and Ollie M Celebrate Havdallah

Jessica Gillespie, PJ Library Professional for the greater Ann Arbor area notes, "We had the good fortune to be part of the pilot for this great program during the summer of 2017. We are so honored that our community was selected again by PJ Library to be included in this round of Get Together grants. All members of a family can really benefit from getting together with other Jewish families to experience and explore Judaism on a more intimate level."

The Zagar family participated in the 2017 pilot program and shared, "We enjoy getting together with families and friends, however this get together was different because we celebrated with a Havdalah service. We would not have done a Havdalah if it were not for the PJ inspiration. Thank you!"

"Each one of the tens of thousands of books sent across the country each month is an individual invitation into a broader community not bound by geographic borders," said Judi Wisch, director of community engagement for PJ Library. "We work closely with our local partners to ensure that the invitation doesn't end when the story ends, which is why we support events and provide financial resources to encourage families to build connections with one another."

PJ Library delivers free Jewish children's books and music CDs to 250 subscribers in the greater Ann Arbor area. Books are sent to children six months through eight years old, with each subscriber receiving a title carefully selected for high-quality content and age-level appropriateness. For more information about the local PJ Library program or Get Together grants, contact Jessica Gillespie at the Ann Arbor JCC at (734) 971-0990 ext. 126 or pjlibrary@jccannarbor.org. ■

Flowers for Tornillo

Special to the WJN

During December, the Temple Beth Emeth Families Group and Social Action Committee teamed up to put on a thoughtful and fun social action pop-up event for TBE families. Jamie Sharkey, from the TBE membership committee, reached out to Abbie Egherman from the Social Action Committee to discuss volunteer opportunities for families with children between the ages of 8 and 12. They agreed to hold an event to make crepe paper flowers to draw attention to the teenagers being detained in a tent city in Tornillo, Texas.

.Within hours Sharkey had instructions to make the flowers and had reached out to Rabbi Daniel Alter, the religious school director, to organize a date and time for the event. On December 8th between the early and late sessions of religious school students between 3 and 11 years old gathered with parents and grand-parents to assemble flowers for Tornillo. By the end the group had assembled 62 colorful flowers to send to El Paso to be opened and displayed along the border fence of the facility.

Elizabeth Vega an "artivist" from St. Louis, Missouri was inspired to organize "Christmas in Tornillo" to shut down the facility and reunite the teens with their families and sponsors during the November 15th pilgrimage to Tornillo organized by Rabbi Josh Whinston of Temple Beth Emeth. Vega's vision included creating a display of flowers, one for each teen detained in the prison-like camp at Tornillo. Under federal custody these migrant teens were detained without due process and with no federal or state oversight of the staff or conditions within the barbed-wire enclosed facility.

Jamie Sharkey, left and Abbie Egherman with a crepe paper flower

The Tornillo detention facility was closed down in mid-January amid reports that the Trump administration is nearly doubling the capacity of a similar, unregulated detention center for migrant teenagers in Homestead, Florida

Following the pop-up event Sharkey said, "I'm so happy we had such a great turn out and were able to complete as many flowers as we did. It was a great way to see familiar faces and meet new families while working on something meaningful together." TBE Families Group and the Social Action Committee will continue to look for ways to engage families in the work of *tikkun olam*. ■

Early Childhood Center Open Enrollment Begins

Peretz Hirshbein, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's Early Childhood Center (ECC) will be accepting new applications for child care and pre-school programs for the 2019-2020 school year beginning Monday, February 18, 2019. The ECC gives first priority for enrollment to siblings of currently enrolled ECC children. Applications from families of JCC affiliate organizations have second priority, followed by applications from the general public.

Torah discovery lesson with Rabbi Daniel Alter

The Ann Arbor JCC's ECC is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, the nation's leading child advocacy organization. The ECC's curriculum is guided by a set of core Jewish values as well as by the HighScope educational approach, the only research-validated early childhood curriculum. The ECC offers programs for children ages 2 months to 5 years old in specially designed learning environments suited for each specific age group. Infant rooms are warm and intimate environments, in which caregivers provide babies with the individualized routines they need. Toddler rooms are safe and reassuring spaces in which both the teachers and the environment can challenge these autonomy-hungry children. Preschool rooms are full of stimulating experiences, where children learn not only from their teachers, but also from each other. The ECC's teachers provide a responsive curriculum that allows them to challenge and nurture children at all developmental levels. Language and literacy, math, science, social studies, and physical development are combined with Jewish celebrations and values to create an integrated curriculum. Healthy living is promoted through the Jewish Community Center Association of North America's Discover CATCH (Coordinated Approach to Child Health) program.

For more information about the Early Childhood Center, please visit ecc.jccannarbor.org or contact Director of Child and Family Services, Peretz Hirshbein at (734) 971-0990 or ecc@jccannarbor.org. ■

Sunday Night Electives at TBE

Rabbi Daniel Alter, special to the WJN

Sunday nights at Temple Beth Emeth have taken a new twist this year. Each week, nearly 100 students across grades 6 – 12 continue to gather together for a communal pizza dinner, and students still go to classes afterward. But now, in addition to the eponymous "8th Grade," "9th Grade," or "10th Grade" classes, students can sign up for "Jewish Monster Hunting," "Jewish Cooking from Around the World," "Judaism and Science," and more. This year, TBE offers electives!

In January, 8th – 12th graders at TBE finished their first round of electives: a six week mini-mester of mixed-grade classes led by congregants and community members with expertise in their field. Under the tutelage of the Jewish Van Helsing, Jack Zaientz, novice Jewish monster hunters explored the depths of a folklore all but forgotten by post-Enlightenment Judaism: estries, golems and ghosts, dybbuks, demons, and Lilith, oh my!

Cooking elective class at TBE

Aspiring Jewish chefs learned from Women of TBE President Trina Fuller to navigate a kitchen, walking away each week with a jar of homemade apple pear sauce or a tub of butternut squash and tahini spread, as well as easy to follow recipes to make at home. Amateur Jewish scientists probed the relationship between Judaism and science along several facets. Be it medical ethics, prayer, or the cosmos, students discovered how science and religion complement one another, that Jews do not need to choose one or the other as the ultimate, or only, source of truth. In his "Israel-Palestine Conflict" class, Rabbi Josh Whinston led his students to a greater understanding of the history and nuance that complicates peace in that region.

In March, a second round of electives will begin. In addition to Jewish Cooking from Around the World, students will be able to choose from a variety of new classes, such as:

- "Great Jewish Books, Great Jewish Authors" with TBE librarian Clare Kinberg
- a parshat hashavua inspired Jewish Yoga class
- "Messages of Courage, Creativity, and Resilience" – an exploration of art, poetry, and music from the Holocaust with TBE's group of second generation Holocaust survivors, Generations After

TBE is excited to offer its students agency, choice in shaping their Jewish education through new elective classes. For more information about TBE's electives, or any of its educational programming, please contact TBE's Director of Education, Rabbi Daniel K. Alter, at rabbialter@templebethemeth.org. ■

Summer Camps: TIME TO PLAN

My Israel Experience with Habonim Dror

By Emma Benedek

Israel is packed with endless cultural and geographical extremes. One moment you are driving through barren desert land and in a matter of minutes you can enter cities filled with intense culture. As I quickly learned in Israel, by having such a diverse group of people and places, divides are easily created. On my trip to this country, I learned that in order to truly immerse yourself, you have to be able to take time to process each unique aspect of the country, rest, and then move onto the next one. It took me a while to understand this, but once I did, I realized the full extent of how lucky I was to be able to go to such a place. I gained so many new friends and connections with Israel throughout my.

Sailing on the Kinneret

Last summer from July 3 through August 5, I went on the Machaneh Bonim B'Israel (MBI) program of the Socialist-Zionist youth movement, Habonim Dror. On the trip, I was able to meet 82 incredible individuals. By spending five weeks with the same people in very close proximity you really get to know them. When I first got to Israel, I was assigned to a Kvutza (group) which included 21 of the 82 student travelers in our larger group. The people in my Kvutza were all 15 and 16 year olds, but came from very different backgrounds: I live in Saline, MI and they came from places like Baltimore, MD, Los Angeles, CA, Philadelphia, PA, and Toronto, Canada. Despite the fact we were all different, jet-lagged, very sweaty, and hungry , we bonded together through our connection to Judaism and Israel. We did everything together, from hiking five miles through a river to spending hours in multiple hostels talking about our Jewish Identity. Together, we discussed the challenges we face in our respective communities and how our communities were connected to Israel.

One aspect of our adventure that stood out to me was when we built ships and sailed across the Kinneret. As a Kvutza, we gathered bamboo poles and learned to tie special knots. Then, we tied massive barrels to the bottoms of bamboo poles, decorated a sail, and hoisted it. With only three days to build a boat that had to float while holding 21 people, we found the work to be very stressful. This task took an immense amount of patience and teamwork.

Our boat had a few issues--we ended up having to re-tie every knot! In the end not only did the raft sail but just as it was built strong from the ground up, so was my connection to everyone around me. Throughout those three days of sleeping outside on mats under the stars and building a boat, I learned so much about the wonderful people around me. These connections I made have traveled back home with me, and now connect me to an international group of people that share a similar Jewish identity forged in Israel.

During my second week in Israel, Habonim Dror set up a four-day stay at Ravid, a small Kibbutz in northern Israel. We met with our sister youth movement called Hanoar Ha'Oved VeHalomed. Between us, there was a huge language barrier. Not many of the kids in Habonim Dror were fluent in Hebrew and the not all the people in Hanoar HaOved VeHalomed (Israelis) were fluent in English. Together, we met for hours at a time to discuss Israel. At first, this seemed difficult, however, as soon as we began talking, our similarities became evident. Even though our descriptions of Israel and personal opinions differed, we still ended up bonding over similar musical interests and we talked about parkour (athletics) for a long time. I learned that the Israelis in this youth movement spend much more time together than those in Habonim Dror. They share a stronger bond with each other and the country not only because they live there but because of the time spent together. I continue to strive to reach this same deep connection and hope to have brought it back to my community and friends around me. To me, the relationship that I was able to build with the Israelis in Hanoar HaOved VeHalomed is something truly beautiful. We began as just strangers meeting for the first time, yet we shared a unique connection of our cultural identity. That, to me, is the beauty of Israel and the common tie I now have with its people.

Overall, my unique experiences have inspired me to reach out and connect to my national Jewish community. Through building boats, sleeping under the stars, going on hikes through the land, and meeting new friends who live in Israel, I have learned a great deal about my Jewish identity and I have gained a stronger connection to the people of Israel. Although my trip was too short to gain a full understanding of the country and people, I was still offered an inspiring glimpse into the country that I hope to visit again.

I would like to thank the Donors of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, The Susan L. Lichter Memorial Endowed Israel Scholarship, and financial support from my grandparents, Richard and Dr.Elissa Benedek, for their contributions to allow me to attend the program. ■

Camp Tavor focuses on building skills that last a lifetime

Randy Lubratich, special to the WJN

The mission of Camp Tavor is to provide an inclusive community where kids have fun being themselves while developing a strong sense of social and environmental responsibility, a caring connection with Israel, and a positive personal Jewish identity. The *tzevet* (staff) work year-round to impact the lives of campers through real experiences.

"Camp Tavor has shaped my entire life," says Sophia Blumenthal of Ann Arbor. "I've been going since 1999 when I was 8 years old. I played a leadership role in the *Ken* (year-round programming for Tavor campers) for years. I went on Workshop (Habonim Dror's year-long program in Israel for young adults who've just graduated high school) and I lived with three friends from camp at university. The three of us were together on *tzevet* for five summers and then made *aliyah*." Sophia continues to live in Israel and works for Habonim Dror there. "Camp shapes a lot of people and gives them the space to explore their identities and the things that are important to them. Many people I know go down social justice or education paths based on the values they learn from camp. If nothing else, it gives kids a place to create formative lifelong friendships and a place to explore their Jewish identities." "Camp Tavor is a place that speaks to a lot of families and their children," says Executive Director Amit Weitzer. "It is our goal to create opportunities through which young people can cultivate the confidence, curiosity, compassion, and skills needed to make a positive impact on their communities and our world."

Jonah, 14, has been at Camp Tavor for five years and says the experience has been amazing. "I have connected with the community at camp and have formed so many bonds with my *kvutza* (age group). Through *peulot* (activities) I have learned a lot about social justice and the environment and much more. Through *avodah* (work), campers have the opportunity to gain life skills including cleaning bathrooms, chopping vegetables, and working the garden and farm with the animals." Experience and knowledge campers can take back to their schools, kitchens and athletic teams.

Camp Tavor is for kids in grades 3-10 with varying options of stay from one week to seven weeks.

Camp Tavor is committed to affordability; scholarships and financial aid are available for those who qualify. Visit their website for more info: www.camptavor.com. ■

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- Asher, Second Year Camper

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Summer Camps: TIME TO PLAN

Camp Raanana Builds Values Through Fun

Marlowe Susselman, special to the WJN

Camp Raanana is the youth day camp operated by the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. The camp is open to youth entering kindergarten through high school. Camp itself is for youth in kindergarten through fith grade, while older

campers participate in leadership and Counselor-in-Training programs. Camp Raanana has served the community since its launch in 1972. Beginning with only a handful of children, Camp Raanana now serves an average of 150 Jewish and non-Jewish campers throughout the Washtenaw County region each summer. Over the last two summers, Camp Raanana introduced a new set of core values that drive its overall mission to create a transformative and fun summer experience, while nurturing identity, building character, and promoting a sense of community. These values are *ruach* (spirit), *chevrut* (friendship), *atzma'ut* (independence), *yetzirah* (creativity), *kavod* (respect), and *chesed* (kindess). These values promote a "mensch" centric culture and are expressed through the variety of daily activities.

While the format is that of a day camp, Camp Raanana is held at the Cedar Lake Nature Center, which is designed as a sleepover camp. This provides a unique opportunity for campers to engage with the outdoor environment. Activities including swimming, archery, canoeing, kayaking, fishing, and hiking instill in the campers a relationship with, appreciation for, and responsibility for the natural world, as well as a healthy zeal for adventure. Also incorporated in the daily routine are visual and performing arts through activities like music, painting, drama, and dance, which encourage self-expression, as well as athletics like baseball, soccer and volleyball, which foster healthy competition, physical fitness, and teamwork.

Several overnights are offered throughout the summer, which provide campers with a sampling of a traditional overnight campout. Camp Raanana also offers weekly electives and inventive "Wacky Wednesday" programs to diversify the weekly schedule and allow children to explore something new and exciting each week. According to Camp and Youth Director, Nikki Feinberg, "I'm really excited to have a strong team of professionals that have been working together all year to plan an amazing summer. We're not just going to have fantastic activities, but we're going to build a community of campers and counselors, and foster learning relationships."

The Atid Leadership Program, designed for children entering grades 6 – 8, provides older campers with a combination of age appropriate activities and basic leadership skill development. The Ozrim Program is a formal paid leadership training opportunity for teens entering grades 9 – 10 that provides experience and training in interviewing, leading others, and planning activities for and supervising campers under the guidance of experienced counselors. The program prepares them to step into Junior Counselor roles as they enter grades 11 and 12. The skills developed through Camp Raanana's leadership programs will serve participants well beyond their camp years.

Camp Raanana is divided into single week sessions, most of which are held at Cedar Lake Nature Center. The single week sessions provide more flexibility for families, although Feinberg suggests campers attend a minimum of two weeks in order to get the most out of the camp experience. Camp Raanana begins on June 24, 2019 and continues through August 23, 2019. The camp day is 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with childcare available beginning at 7:30 a.m. and extending to 6:00 p.m. For more information about Camp Raanana or to register, visit camp.jccannarbor.org or contact Camp and Youth Director, Nikki Feinberg, at nicolefeinberg@jccannarbor.org or Camp and Youth Program Coordinator and Waterfront Director, Marlowe Susselman at marlowesusselman@jccannarbor.org or call the Ann Arbor JCC at (734) 971-0990. ■

Federation offers summer camp scholarships

Eileen Freed, special to the WJN

The Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor is pleased to announce the availability of needs-based scholarships for Jewish summer camp participation for the summer of 2019. Thanks to the generosity of donors to the 2018 Annual Community Campaign, the Federation board approved an increased allocation to Jewish summer camp scholarships in recognition of the significant impact a Jewish summer camp experience has on life-long Jewish engagement.

Scholarships are for attendance at Jewish day camps, such as the JCC's Camp Raanana and Chabad's Camp Gan Israel, and Jewish overnight camps. These include non-denominational camps such as Camp Tamarack; camps run by religious streams such as Camp Ramah or URJ's Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute; or youth movement camps such as Camp Tavor or Camp Young Judaea. Learn more about Jewish overnight camps and programs at the Foundation for Jewish Camp's One Happy Camper website (www.jewishcamp.org/one-happy-camper/). Search for a range of Jewish summer opportunities for teens at www.findyoursummer.org.

Jewish Family Services (JFS) manages the scholarship application process on behalf of the Jewish Federation and reviews all applications on an individual basis. Applicants will be asked to demonstrate financial need and to explore scholarship opportunities from other sources such as camps and congregations.

Award letters will be distributed by the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor by May 1, and payment will be made directly to the camps.

For questions or to apply, contact Christine Taylor at JFS, (734) 769-0209 or christinet@jfsannarbor.org. Applications will be accepted through April 1, 2019. ■

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Summer Camps: TIME TO PLAN

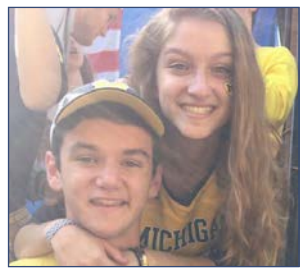
Havaya: Camp to Campus

By Lillie Heyman

When I first decided to attend Camp Havaya, the Reconstructionist movement's summer camp in the Poconos, I was expecting just a fun summer away from my home in New Jersey. That was the summer before 7th grade, and that I am in my sophomore year at the University of Michigan, I can see how camp changed my life.

Camp Havaya gave me an outlet to be unapologetically myself and be supportive of others doing the same. I was exposed to LGBTQ Jewish people, interfaith parents, and Jewish people of many different races and ethnicities. My Judaism was shaped to be a Judaism of intersectionality, inclusivity, and community.

These lessons of understanding, open-mindedness, and community armed me with the skills necessary for a successful college career full of dialogue and new experiences. Camp motivated me to learn about people with different backgrounds and step outside of my comfort zone. The Jewish value I hold most dearly, largely influenced by my time at Camp Havaya, is social justice. This value can be summed up by the Rabbi Hillel quote, "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am only for myself, who am I? If not now, when?"



Lillie and Brian Heyman, former Camp Havaya campers

Today I am pursuing a career in public policy at the University of Michigan, with which I hope to address systematic inequalities and advocate for marginalized groups and women's rights. Many of my camp friends do Jewish and/or social justice work on their campuses as well.

I was a camper for 6 years, and a counselor for two. I came back to camp to work on staff to help campers have the same great experiences I had and to create long-lasting, meaningful relationships with one another. My purposes grew deeper when I returned again. I wanted to create a space for campers to feel included and give them a sense of belonging, no matter their identity, in a world that may make them feel otherwise. I wanted to give campers a place to be themselves, to be enthusiastically supported, and a place to be excited about their Judaism, especially if they are not around many Jewish people at home.

I was nervous when I first stepped onto campus at University of Michigan, but I knew I was prepared and armed with the skills to thrive, thanks to my time at Camp Havaya as a camper and a staff member. Camp Havaya gave me confidence in myself that I can make friends and be on my own for weeks at a time. So much of the college journey is finding yourself and what is important to you. At camp, I got a head start. I was taught to question norms and have meaningful conversations. I was encouraged to be introspective, develop my values, and start discovering the type of person I want to be and who I want to surround myself with.

After seeing how much I loved camp, my brother decided to attend. Eventually he would be staff at Camp Havaya, and a student at the University of Michigan as well. Camp Havaya gave my brother and I a place to be around campers of all different backgrounds and staff from all over the world. It enabled me to explore my Jewish identity and be excited to be Jewish. I will forever be grateful for the values it instilled in me and the preparation camp gave me for attending the University of Michigan and for my future. ■

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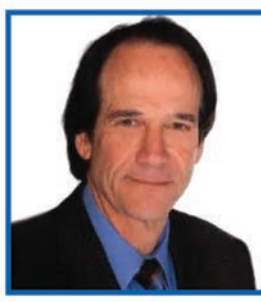

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Volunteering in Israel

By Babette Levy Daskin

I have had the good fortune of traveling to Israel for many decades and have lived there two years of my life. But, until last Fall, I was always either a student or a tourist. Last year, when the opportunity presented itself to spend more than a week or two in the country, I thought now is the time to do something to contribute, albeit just a little, to the State and operate "on the inside" versus the "outside."

After looking online and speaking with people, two opportunities looked promising, and I was able to do both: Volunteers for Israel (http://www.vfi-usa.org) and Skilled Volunteers for Israel (https://skillvolunteerisrael.org)

Babette Levy and Mark Daskin with their base commander.

Volunteers for Israel places volunteers on Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) supply and logistic bases. Sar-El in Hebrew – an abbreviation for Sherut L'Yisrael or Service to Israel – has placed over 650,000 volunteers since 1983 when the organization began operation. Over 3,000 people volunteered with the program during 2017 with the majority from the U.S. and France. But a surprising number of Israelis volunteer as well. My roommate was one of those Israelis.

My husband Mark and I both decided to volunteer, and after a very thorough vetting process, were accepted for the week of October 28, 2018. Mark and I arrived at Ben Gurion airport at 8 am that Sunday to receive our assignment and travel to our base. It was the day after the Tree of Life attack in Pittsburgh and we felt as though we were helping that community as well as Israel. The base we were assigned to is in the Negev and houses vehicles and supplies for those vehicles. Our group was composed of ten volunteers, five men and five women. The base commander had requested volunteers because an inspection was scheduled for that Wednesday. To prepare for that inspection, some of us had to load very heavy duffel bags into the trucks that carry the vehicles while some hauled water to clean large storage warehouses of the ever-present dust from the Negev. It was hot and we were so exhausted the first few days there that we went to sleep by 9 pm and didn't wake up until 6 am with sunrise.

The base commander, Moshe, a Lieutenant Colonel, really pitched in along with his soldiers getting the base ready for the inspection. He was raised in a nearby desert development town, and is now raising his family there. He related extremely well to his soldiers.

A Major General, Head of the Logistical and Technological Directorate, conducted the inspection. He reports directly to the Ramat Kal, the Chief of Staff of the Israel Defense Forces. We were quite fortunate to be introduced to the General and thanked directly by him for our services. He also expressed his sadness about the Tree of Life tragedy.

The week gave us a very rudimentary introduction to the IDF. We learned what the berets and the epaulets meant and reviewed the history of the State. Having some understanding of the Israel Defense Forces and its culture is necessary to understanding Israel. It was a very worthwhile week.

Prior to leaving the U.S., I also connected with Skilled Volunteers for Israel and spoke with the organization's founder and executive director, Marla Gamoran. Ms. Gamoran created the organization to create more way for adults to volunteer in Israel. After exploring several options, I decided that I would tutor English for middle school students in the Tel Aviv area where my husband and I were planning to rent an apartment for five weeks.

My placement was at the ORT Singalovsky Middle School in the Yad Eliyahu neighborhood in Tel Aviv. Once a very disadvantaged neighborhood, Yad Eliyahu has become more middle class due to the high cost of homes in central Tel Aviv. The school still has a very sizeable at-risk population though. I tutored the students in small groups of one or two. They were often children of Russian, Ukrainian, and Azerbaijani immigrants as well as children of foreign workers from Africa and the Philippines. There were also students from a Mizrachi background.

Some of the students spoke English surprisingly well, having learned from video games and international chat rooms. On the other end of the spectrum, I had to transliterate the word "his" into Hebrew so that one particular student could pronounce it correctly. The students really wanted to learn as they know they will need English to get anywhere in Israel. Three students had participated in a student exchange with the Los Angeles Jewish Federation and the LA students, in turn, have visited Israel and the school.

I worked with three teachers at the school: Sharon, Etty and Inbal. They were great and super-committed. The experience was as much about getting to know the teachers and the school environment as actually teaching the students. The students call the teachers by their first names and have a very relaxed relationship with them. I was at the school immediately before Chanukah and one of the teachers made livivot (potato pancakes) and sufganiot (jelly doughnuts) in the school kitchen. Both delicious! It was a wonderful to experience Chanukah with them.

Skilled Volunteers for Israel also has opportunities for professionals to use their talents in non-profit organizations in many capacities. The possibilities are many! Check out these options on your next trip to Israel. ■

Book Review

A Family Haggadah for all the kids

By Jessica DeYoung Kander

Haggadah Regatta written and illustrated by Carol Levin inspires families to engage with the rituals of the Passover seder with dreamy illustrations and many opportunities to join in on the fun. This Haggadah does what so many children's and family Haggadahs strive for but fail to accomplish; it hits that sweet spot, managing to create a meaningful ritual text while also remaining fun and attractive for the youngest participants attending a family seder. In addition, the clever use of color-coded text lets readers know when it is their cue to join in, and join in they do. Readers are asked to stomp along and call out answers along the way, all illustrated with charming shoes stomping and dancing atop a matzah raft along with a boy and his goat as they traverse the river. While, at times, I was looking for the text to rhyme, the careful use of alliteration and rhythm kept the book upbeat and peppy. This was aided by the aforementioned delightful illustrations, which serve as their own pun (two kids, get it?).

Carol Levin with her grandchildren.

The thoughtful Hebrew phonetics user guide at the beginning allows everyone the ability to participate meaningfully in the prayers regardless of their familiarity with the language. It was this guide that pointed to the intended audience of Jewish families where comfort with Hebrew is no longer a given. While I would have preferred Hebrew text alongside it, I ultimately found the phonetic transliteration to be praise worthy among the Jewish publishing industries that so often marginalize those families with little or no Hebrew knowledge.

I can imagine many young families using this Haggadah both as a read-aloud introduction to Passover and as their actual family Haggadah during the seder as the book could easily transition between both uses for years to come. ■

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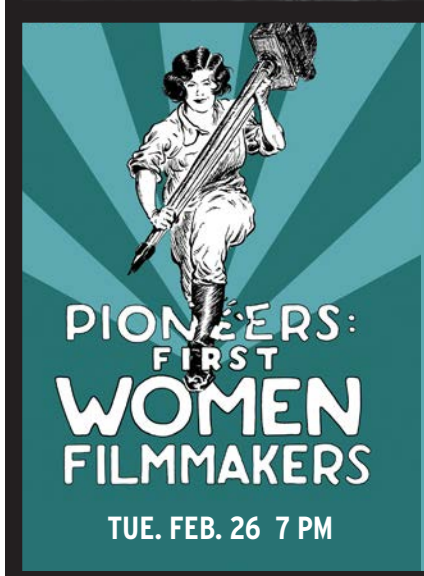

Join us as we pay tribute to the trailblazing work of the first female filmmakers in a series of curated silent film shorts!

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FRANKEL EVENTS
February 2018

What is Sephardi about Sephardi Thought?
Daniel Lasker, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
February 26, 4 pm
2022 Thayer, 202 S. Thayer

All events are free and open to the public. If you have a disability that requires a reasonable accommodation, please call at least two weeks prior to the event.

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AfternoonDelightCafe.com
artwork by danhackett.com

Jewish Baking, Part II

Lonnie Sussman, Staff writer

First and foremost, I want to welcome Clare Kinberg as the new editor/publisher of the *Washtenaw Jewish News* and to thank Susie Ayer for her 27 years of leadership and for convincing me to write this column.

It's still dark and cold outside and I'm reading posts from friends in warm places! This column is called Jewish Baking, Part II because the last column I wrote was Part I and it only covered Rugelach. I'm still obsessing about Jewish baking and the gazillions of recipes I've found. There are recipes for Jewish bread like challah, rye, corn, onion, bagels, etc., etc., etc. I think a future column might be about these Jewish breads.

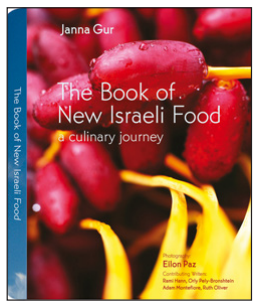
Some recipes are found in almost every Jewish cookbook because of their popularity or connections to a Jewish Holiday. Recipes for Hamantaschen belong on Purim, flourless chocolate cake belongs on Pesach and honey cakes and apple cakes are most often eaten on Rosh Hashanah or Sukkot. Some of the recipes reflect the need for "sweetness" in our lives and are served on Shabbat or even just when someone drops by for a visit. Let's save those recipes for their appropriate holiday.

We know how influenced Jewish bakers were by the cultures in which they lived. No matter where in the world Jews were, they created foods that followed the laws of Kashrut and adapted the foods available to them to create these recipes. The recipes were mostly not written down. Instead they were passed down orally with only general directions. "A glazele (glass) sugar" or "sheet a rine" (throw in a little bit) were often what we heard. What size glass? How much is a little bit? If you have a recipe written by any of your relatives, you have a treasure.

Anyhow, here are some traditional and non-traditional recipes for baking this month. ■

Tu b'Shvat Cake

(*The Book of New Israeli Food: a culinary journey* by Janna Gur, 2008)



1 loaf pan, pareve

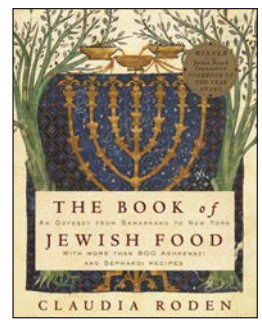
Let's start with a cake for the holiday of Tu b'Shvat, otherwise known as The Birthday for the Trees. Technically, the 15th of the Hebrew month of Shevat began at sundown on January 20 this year, but we can still celebrate. Tu b'Shvat is a minor holiday that is mentioned in the Mishnah as one of the four new years of the Hebrew calendar. It has evolved from ancient times as the day on which all trees "celebrated" a birthday for the purposes of determining when the fruit could be gathered and eaten. It is now a traditional day to plant trees, either in person or in Israel through the Jewish National Fund (remember the blue and white tzedakah boxes in the kitchen?). Many people mark the day with a Tu b'Shvat seder celebrating the seven species of fruits mentioned in the Torah. In modern times this day has been used for environmental activities, such as Eco-Shabbat.

7 Tablespoons flour
7 Tablespoons sugar
3 eggs
7 oz. dried fruit, multiple colors make for a prettier presentation (prunes, apricots, raisins, figs, papaya, cranberries, etc.)
7 oz. assorted nuts (walnuts, pecans, hazelnuts, almonds)
½ teaspoon cinnamon
¼ teaspoon nutmeg
Pinch of ground cloves (optional)

Preheat oven to 300 degrees. Mix the flour, eggs and spices. Chop the nuts and dried fruit into coarse pieces and mix into the dough. Transfer to a greased loaf pan and bake for 1 and ½ hours, until the cake is golden brown. Cool completely. Best to store the cake uncut and slice very thin with a bread knife when you are ready to serve.

Mohn (Yiddish for Poppy Seeds) Cake

(*The Book of Jewish Food: an odyssey from Samarkand to New York* by Claudia Roden, 1996)



Dairy – to make this pareve substitute non-dairy margarine and use soy or almond milk

This is also called Poppy Seed Cake or Kindli (Yiddish, from northwest Hungary) and was a famous cake in Oak Park, Michigan, our old neighborhood. Even though it looked like pastry wrapped around coffee grounds, it was delicious. The cake definitely goes great with a "glazele" tea.

Pastry:
2 cups flour
1-2 Tablespoons sugar
6 oz. butter
1 egg, lightly beaten
1-2 Tablespoons of milk, if needed
1 egg yolk, to glaze,
Confectioners' sugar to sprig on top, optional

Filling:
1 cup poppy seeds
¼ cup milk
½ cup honey
1/3 cup ground almonds
½ cup raisins

1 egg, lightly beaten

For the pastry, mix together the flour and sugar and rub in the butter with your hands, then mix in the egg but if the dough doesn't hold together add a little milk until it does. Cover with plastic wrap and let rest for 30 minutes.

For the filling, put the poppy seeds in a pan with the milk and bring to a boil. Turn off the heat and let it soak for ten minutes, then add the rest of the ingredients.

Divide the dough into 2 balls, roll out the first on a well-floured surface. Line and grease a 9-10 inch pie pan. Pinch the edges of the pastry up to make a very slight rim. Spread the filling over the surface. Roll out the remaining dough and place it carefully on top of the filling. Press down on the dough to touch the bottom pastry. Brush with the egg yolk mixed with a teaspoon of water. Bake for about 35 minutes in a preheated 350 -degree oven or until the dough is golden brown.

Kichel

Or what I like to call "Air with sugar," (*The Book of Jewish Food*, Claudia Roden), parve

This very Ashkenazi dessert was *always* served at Kiddush after Shabbat morning services at B'nai Moshe Synagogue in Oak Park, Michigan. It was ubiquitous for special occasions, like b'nai mitzvah. It is oil based, so it is also parve which means it can be served with both dairy and nondairy meals.

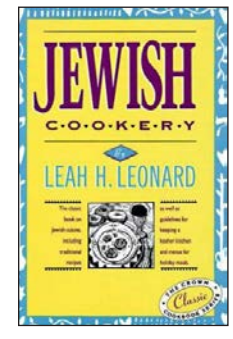
3 eggs
3 tablespoons light oil
A pinch of salt
2 tablespoons sugar
About 2 cups flour or more, as needed

Preheat the oven 525 degrees (I know, very hot) with baking sheets lined with parchment paper or wax paper.

Beat the eggs with the oil, salt and 2 teaspoons of the sugar. Gradually mix in the flour with your hand, just until you get a soft dough that can be rolled out on a floured surface without sticking to it. Divide into 2 balls and roll out to about an 1/4 -inch thickness. Sprinkle the top with the rest of the sugar and press it into the dough with the rolling pin. Then cut 2-inch squares with a pointed knife and place on the hot baking sheets. Bake for 8-10 minutes until golden brown. These store well and never seem to go stale.

Basic Recipe for a Yeast Dough Coffee Cake

(*Jewish Cookery*, by Leah W. Leonard, 1949)



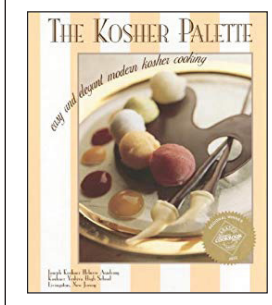
Our new editor, Clare, had a great aunt who published the famous cookbook called *Jewish Cookery*, in 1949. It was the first of my many Jewish cookbooks and given to me by my mother as a shower gift for my wedding. It was originally published to help new immigrants from Eastern Europe learn how to cook with American ingredients. Some of the cake recipes are, um, interesting. For example, there are recipes for Tomato Soup Cake, Oregon Prune Cake and Soybean Gingerbread Cake. But she included old world recipes for honey cakes, Viennese Tortes, and cheese cakes. Here is a recipe for a yeasted coffee cake.

4-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
2 packages of yeast
1 cup lukewarm water
½ cup sugar
1 cup shortening (I'm sure she was writing about Crisco which had been declared Kosher. You could use another type of shortening like Earth Balance or Mar-parve)
3 eggs
1 tablespoon salt
Grated rind of 1 lemon
Sugar, cinnamon, nuts, raisins and citron to taste

Dissolve the yeast in the lukewarm liquid and stir in 1 cup of the flour. Cover and set to rise in a warm place for about ½ hour. Cream the shortening with the sugar, beat in the eggs, one at a time and add the salt and grated lemon peel. Beat into the sponge (flour and yeast mixture) and stir in the rest of the flour. Mix at least 5 minutes (!) Add the raisins, chopped nuts, citron and sugar to taste. Cover with a towel and set in a warm place to rise until double in bulk, about 2-1/2 hours. (I would use instant rise yeast and it will cut the time considerably). Lightly knead and roll out the dough into a rectangle about 1/2- inch thick. Roll the rectangle up so that it makes a ring. Place it in a well -greased tube pan. Brush the top with melted butter, or non-dairy margarine or egg yolk beaten with a little water. You can sprinkle the top with a bit more sugar and chopped nuts. Bake 30 minutes at 350 degrees or until lightly browned.

Ultimate Chocolate Cake

(*The Kosher Palette*, from the Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy and the Kushner Yeshiva High School) edited by Susie Fishbein and Sandra Blank) Parve or Dairy



This cookbook was the first of the Susie Fishbein Kosher cookbook series. It won an award as a regional community cookbook in 2000. It can be made in any shape - round, square, rectangle, muffin or Bundt pan. It also freezes great.

2 cups sugar
1-3/4 all-purpose flour
¾ cup cocoa
1-1/2 teaspoons baking soda
1-1/2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup non-dairy creamer or milk
½ cup vegetable oil
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
2 large eggs, lightly beaten

1 cup boiling water

Pre-heat the oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour the pan of your choice: one 13-x9-inch, two 8-inch round or square pans or muffin tins or a Bundt pan. Combine the dry ingredients in a large mixing bowl. Stir until well blended. Add milk, oil, vanilla and eggs and beat a medium speed with an electric mixer for 2 minutes. Scrape down the sides of the bowl as needed. Fold in the boiling water with a spoon or spatula and pour into the prepared pans. Bake for 25-50 minutes, depending on how shallow or deep the pan is. Check for doneness with a toothpick. This recipe serves 8-12 people.

February 2019

Friday 1

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

First Friday Shabbat: JCS. All are invited to welcome Shabbat with secular Jewish readings, songs, candle lighting, challah, wine, and a Yahrtzeit observance to remember loved ones. Dinner will follow the short observance. Children are welcome. Dinner is free for JCS members and is $10/person or $25/family for nonmembers. Registration is required at www.jewishculturalsociety.org. For more information: (734)975-9872 or info@jewishculturalsociety.org. 6:30–9 p.m. at the JCC.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m. Shira from 6:45–7:15 p.m.

AARTY Shul-In: TBE. 6:30 p.m.–7:30 a.m Saturday, February 2.

Birthdays and Anniversaries and 4th Grade Shabbat: TBE. 7:30–9:00 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at the end of the calendar.

Saturday 2

Religious School: TBE. 8:30–10:15 a.m.

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Chapel Service: TBE. 10–11 a.m.

Kindergarten Family Program: TBE. 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Religious School: TBE. 10:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM. Spirited and lively Tot Shabbat. For tots ages 0–5 years old and their families. Tot friendly service with singing, storytime, and a kids Kiddush to follow. Held at Hillel, 1429 Hill Street. Non-members welcome and encouraged to attend. For details, email community@annarborminyan.org or visit www.annarborminyan.org. 11:15 a.m.–Noon.

Quiz Night: BIC. 7 p.m.

Euchre Night: TBE. Adult Lounge. Grab a partner or come alone! All levels welcome. Contact Dave Ostreicher, djostrei@umich.edu, with questions. 8–9:30 p.m.

Shabbat services: ***See listing at the end of calendar.***

Sunday 3

World Wide Wrap XIV: BIC. Learn or re-learn how to wrap tefillin. 9:30–11:30 a.m.

Tot Family Bowling: BIC. At Revel and Roll, 2–4 p.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m. *Sundays.*

Kol Halev Rehearsal: TBE. 3:00–5:00 p.m.

Delving into the Prayer Book: TBE. Contact Cantor Hayut, cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org, with questions. 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Monday 4

Keshet: TBE. 5:30–8:30 p.m.

WTBE Fiber Arts: TBE. 7:30–9 p.m.

Talmud class–Daf Hashavuah: UM Hillel. AAOM Rabbi Jared Anstandig, leads study of one page of Talmud a week. This class focuses on understanding the basic text of the Talmud, without significant discussion of practical application. We will be studying Tractate Megillah, which focuses on the holiday of Purim. Please see annarborminyan.org or email community@annarborminyan.org for more info. All are welcome to attend! 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday 5

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study of the text with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m.

Wednesday 6

Film Screening @ the J: Groundhog Day. Join the J for a screening of director Harold Ramis's 1993 film, Groundhog Day! This event is as part of the J's Lunch Cafe. An optional lunch will be available at noon for purchase. Please call (734) 971-0990 at least one day prior to reserve lunch. For more information about this event, contact Rachael at (734) 971-0990 or rachaelhoffenblum@jccannarbor.org. 12:30–2pm.

Is Our Criminal Justice System Fair? Chabad. DNA testing is proving that we've been convicting innocent people. When we incarcerate first-time offenders, we're turning them into hardened criminals. Known murderers are able to walk free on a technicality. How can we stand by and remain silent to these serious flaws in our criminal justice system?" Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Mahj: TBE. Offsite. 1–3 p.m.

Hebrew School: TBE. 4:30 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 7

Baking Mavens: TBE. 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Topics in Jewish law, thought, and history: AAOM with Rabbi Jared Anstandig. Using the weekly page of Talmud of a springboard, this class will discuss different topics in Jewish law, thought, and history. Though the class is a deep dive in topics in the Monday weekly page of Talmud, attendance in the earlier class is not necessary. Please see annarborminyan.org or email community@annarborminyan.org for more info. All are welcome to attend! 7:30 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study from the original Talmud tractate. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 8

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon–1 p.m.

Shabbat Dinner for 20's and 30's with Rav Nadav: BIC. Rav Nadav hosts a Shabbat dinner at his home for individuals and families. Children are welcome and childcare is provided. RSVP to Sarah Klein at sklein@bethisrael-aa.org.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m. Shira from 6:45–7:15 p.m. (See Feb 1.)

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 9

Religious School: TBE. 8:30–10:15 a.m.

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 8:50–9:50 a.m.

6th Grade Service & Luncheon: TBE. 10:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Religious School: TBE. 10:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Preschool 3: TBE. 10:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Mini Minyan: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM. Spirited and lively Tot Shabbat. For tots ages 0–5 years old and their families. (See February 2)

Shabbat services: See listing at end of the calendar.

Sunday 10

Family Challah Bake, 3–5p.m. Contact Jessica at Jessica@jccannarbor.org for more information.

Gan Katan: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Ritual Lab & Learn: AARC. Adult Education series taught by Rabbi Ora Nitkin-Kaner, learning and practicing home rituals. 12:30–2 p.m.

Hebrew School: TBE. 3–5 p.m.

Delving into the Prayer Book: TBE. 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Religious School: TBE. 6–7:30 p.m.

Kol Halev: TBE. 6:15–7:45 p.m.

Monday 11

WTBE Historical Novel Reading Group: TBE. February's book is Barbara Hanbly, *A Free Man of Color* (*Benjamin January, Book 1)* 1997.12:30–2 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 5;30–8:30 p.m.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. An in-depth study and lively discussion of the week's Torah portion led by Cantor Regina Hayut. The group will explore various passages from the portion looking at several translations and commentaries from a variety of scholars from Talmudic times to the modern day. No Hebrew knowledge necessary to participate in the discussion. For questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 7–9 p.m.

Talmud class–Daf Hashavuah: UM Hillel. AAOM Rabbi Jared Anstandig, leads study of one page of Talmud a week. All are welcome to attend! 8:30 p.m.(see February 4)

Tuesday 12

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study of the text with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Wednesday 13

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): JCC.**Please note the change of location, day, and time!** After many years at the Michigan League, we are moving to the Ann Arbor JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, Conference Room, experimenting with combining the long-time Yiddish reading group together with the conversational one, ½ an hour of one followed by ½ an hour of the other. All are welcome for conversation and reading in mame-loshn, the "mother tongue." Free and open to all lovers of Yiddish language and culture, no matter what level of proficiency, regardless of age. All manner of topics are discussed, with an effort to improve participants' Yiddish speaking skills, especially vocabulary. Everyone is welcome to join in at any time, or to just listen. For more information, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613. 11:00 a.m. Wednesdays beginning February 13.

Film Screening @ the J: Jane Eyre: Join the J for a screening of the Academy Award-winning 2011 film, Jane Eyre! This event is as part of the J's Lunch Cafe. An optional lunch will be available at noon for purchase. Please call (734) 971-0990 at least one day prior to reserve lunch or for more information contact rachaelhoffenblum@jccannarbor.org. 12:30–2p.m.

Is Our Criminal Justice System Fair? Chabad Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. (See Feb 6)

Hebrew School: TBE. 4:30 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 6:30 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 14

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Topics in Jewish law, thought, and history: AAOM with Rabbi Jared Anstandig. Using the weekly page of Talmud of a springboard, this class will discuss different topics in Jewish law, thought, and history. Though the class is a deep dive in topics in the Monday weekly page of Talmud, attendance in the earlier class is not necessary. Please see annarborminyan.org or email community@annarborminyan.org for more info. All are welcome to attend! 7:30 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 15

KidZone Vacation, JCC. KidZone Vacation provides fun and adventure for children in K-5 when Ann Arbor Public Schools and Hebrew Day School have scheduled closures. Children enjoy computer time, games, reading time, arts and crafts time, sports, and a kid-friendly movie. Pre and post care available. Visit www.jccannarbor.org for more information (including pricing information) or to register. Questions? Contact Nicole at nicolefeinberg@jccannarbor.org or (734) 971-0990. 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: TBE. 5:45–6:15 p.m.

Tot Shabbat Dinner: TBE. 6:15–6:45 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at end of calendar.

Saturday 16

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Chapel Service: TBE. 10–11a.m.

Shabbat Limmud: BIC. 9 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM. Spirited and lively Tot Shabbat meeting every 1st and 3rd Saturday. For tots ages 0–5 years old and their families. (See February 2)

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 17

Julia Eisendrath Quilt Exhibit Reception, JCC. Amster Gallery reception for quilter Julia Eisendrath opening her exhibit. For more information, contact Karen at 971-0990 or karenfreedland@jccannarbor.org. 3–5 p.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m. *Sundays.*

Delving into the Prayer Book: TBE. 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Kol Halev: TBE. 6:15–7:45 p.m.

Monday 18

KidZone Vacation, JCC. See February 15 above for description, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 5:30–8:30 p.m.

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The Schmuel Song
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Calendar

WTBE Fiber Arts: TBE. 7:00–8:30 p.m.

Talmud class–Daf Hashavuah: UM Hillel. AAOM Rabbi Jared Anstandig, leads study of one page of Talmud a week. All are welcome to attend! 8:30 p.m. (See February 4)

Tuesday 19

KidZone Vacation, JCC. See February 15 above for description, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday–for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *See first Tuesday of month.*

Wednesday 20

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): JCC. **Please note the change of location, day, and time!** For more information, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613. 11:00 a.m.–noon. (See February 13)

Film Screening @ the J: Failure to Launch, JCC. Join the J for a screening of the 2006 film, Failure to Launch! This event is as part of the J's Lunch Cafe. An optional lunch will be available at noon for purchase. Please call (734) 971-0990 at least one day prior to reserve lunch. For more information about this event, contact Rachael at (734) 971-0990 or rachaelhoffenblum@jccannarbor.org. 12:30–2 p.m.

Mahj: Offsite. 1:00–3:00 p.m.

Hebrew School: TBE. 4:30–6:30 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Is Our Criminal Justice System Fair?: Chabad.

Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. *(See February 6)*

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 21

Third Thursday @ the J: TBD. Save the date and make sure to check the J's website (www.jccannarbor.org) for more information about upcoming speakers! Optional lunch available at noon. Lunches must be reserved at least one day in advance. For more information, contact Rachael at rachaelhoffenblum@jccannarbor.org or (734) 971-0990. Noon–1 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4:00–7:00 p.m.

Brotherhood Guys' Night Out: TBE. 6–7:30 p.m.

Topics in Jewish law, thought, and history: AAOM with Rabbi Jared Anstandig. For more info. All are welcome to attend! 7:30 p.m. (see February 2)

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 22

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

Tot Shabbat Dinner: TBE. 6–6:30 p.m.

Guitar-led Shabbat Service: TBE. Sanctuary. A special, song-filled, musical celebration with singing, dancing, guitar, and a big dose of ruach. It's how we provide another gateway to prayer. This service takes the place of Shabbat Achat and falls on the fourth Friday of each month. 6:30–8 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at the end of the calendar.

Saturday 23

Religious School: TBE. 8:30–10:15 a.m.

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Bar Mitzvah Service: TBE. 10:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Religious School: TBE. 10:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Baby Shabbat: TBE. 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

Mini Minyan: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM. Spirited and lively Tot Shabbat. For tots ages 0–5 years old and their families. For details, email community@annarborminyan.org or visit www.annarborminyan.org. 11:15 a.m.–noon. (Se February 2)

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of calendar.*

Sunday 24

Monthly Playgroup: TBE. Families with Young(ish) Children: Monthly Playground Meet-Up. Rotating Parks in Ann Arbor.. These events are for children 0–10 years old. Questions? Contact Beth Pearson, bethlpearson@gmail.com. 10–noon.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Ritual Lab & Learn: AARC. Adult Education series taught by Rabbi Ora Nitkin-Kaner, learning and practicing home rituals. 12:30–2 p.m.

Delving into the Prayer Book: TBE. 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Jewish Book and Tschotchke Exchange: BIC. 5–7 p.m.

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6:30 p.m.

Religious School: TBE. 6:00–7:30 p.m.

Kol Halev: TBE. 6:15–7:45 p.m.

Monday 25

Keshet: TBE. 5:30–8:30 p.m.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. 7–9 p.m.

Talmud class–Daf Hashavuah: UM Hillel. AAOM Rabbi Jared Anstandig, leads study of one page of Talmud a week. Please see annarborminyan.org or email community@annarborminyan.org for more info. All are welcome to attend! 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday 26

Tea and Torah on Tuesday–for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *See first Tuesday of month.*

What is Sephardi about Sephardi Thought? U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Speaker Daniel Lasker, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Room 2022, 202 S. Thayer St., Ann Arbor. Sephardi Jewry produced major Jewish thinkers in the Middle Ages, from philosophers like Judah Halevi, Maimonides, and Hasdai Crescas; to mystics like Nahmanides and Moses de Leon. Among the philosophers, there were those who adopted extreme rationalism in the guise of Greek philosophy, while others were moderate rationalists, questioning the conclusions reached by the philosophers, especially those that seemed to undermine Jewish tradition. Among the mystics, some tried to preserve their traditions among a small circle of adepts, while others advocated the widespread distribution of mystical ideas. Sephardi legalists also incorporated theological ideas in their legal decisions. The lecture will discuss whether there is something specifically Sephardi which is characteristic of Iberian Jewish thinkers and the implications of Sephardi thought for Sephardi identity after the expulsion and into the modern period. 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday 27

Is Our Criminal Justice System Fair? Chabad "DNA testing is proving that we've been convicting innocent people. When we incarcerate first-time offenders, we're turning them into hardened criminals. Known murderers are able to walk free on a technicality. How can we stand by and remain silent to these serious flaws in our criminal justice system?" Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

***Yidish tish* (Yiddish Conversational Group): JCC** **Please note the change of location, day, and time!** After many years at the Michigan League, we are moving to the Ann Arbor JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, Conference Room, experimenting with combining the long-time Yiddish reading group together with the conversational one, ½ an hour of one followed by ½ an hour of the other. All are welcome for conversation and reading in *mame-loshn*, the "mother tongue." Free and open to all lovers of Yiddish language and culture, no matter what level of proficiency, regardless of age. All manner of topics are discussed, with an effort to improve participants' Yiddish speaking skills, especially vocabulary. Everyone is welcome to join in at any time, or to just listen. For more information, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613. 11:00 a.m.–noon.

KidZone Vacation, JCC. See February 15 above for description, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Film Screening @ the J: *The Notebook*. Join the J for a screening of classic romantic 2004 film, *The Notebook*! This event is as part of the J's Lunch Cafe. An optional lunch will be available at noon for purchase. Please call (734) 971-0990 at least one day prior to reserve lunch. For more information about this event, contact Rachael at (734) 971-0990 or rachaelhoffenblum@jccannarbor.org. 12:30–2 p.m.

Hebrew School: TBE. 4:30–8:30 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 28

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Topics in Jewish law, thought, and history: AAOM with Rabbi Jared Anstandig. Please see annarborminyan.org or email community@annarborminyan.org for more info. All are welcome to attend! 7:30 p.m. See February 4)

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Weekly Friday night Shabbat services

Shabbat Service: AAOM. Services held at UM Hillel. Call (734) 994-9258 in advance to confirm time.

Shabbat Service: BIC. 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 6 p.m., followed by tot dinner. Traditional Service at 7:30 p.m. Once a month Middle School Service at 7:30 p.m. For information, call (734) 665-4744.

Shabbat Service: AARC. Every fourth Friday at the JCC. Tot Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Pizza for the little ones at 6:15 p.m. Service at 6:30 p.m., followed by vegetarian potluck at 8 p.m. Childcare during service. All are welcome to attend. For information, email info@aarecon.org, phone (734) 445-1910, or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Service: Chabad. Begins at candle lighting time. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals and Jewish holidays. Call (734) 995-3276 in advance.

Weekly Shabbat services

Shabbat Services: AAOM. Morning service, 9:30 a.m. and Friday night Kabbalat shabbat, times vary, see website annarborminyan.org for time or contact rabbi@annarborminyan.org)..

Shabbat Services: BIC. 9:30 a.m. For other service times, visit www.bethisrael-aa.org.

Shabbat Services: AARC. Second Saturday of each month at the JCC. 10 a.m. Ta-Shma/Come and Learn. Service begins at 10:30 a.m. Traditional liturgy with music, chanting and contemporary readings and discussion. For information, email info@aarecon.org, phone (734) 445-1910, or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Services: Chabad. Friday night services at Shabbat candle lighting time. Saturday morning services at 9:45 a.m. Afternoon Mincha services 45 minutes before sundown. Call (734) 995-3276 for Home Hospitality and Meals for Shabbat and Jewish Holidays.

Shabbat Services: Pardes Hannah. Generally meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. Call (734) 663-4039 for more information. 10 a.m. Led by Rabbi Elliot Ginsburg.

Shabbat Services: TBE. Torah Study at 8:50 a.m. Morning Minyan with Rabbi Josh Whinston and Cantor Regina Lambert-Hayut at 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m. most weeks. Call the office at (734) 665-4744 or consult website at www.templebethemeth.org for service details.

Home Hospitality for Shabbat and Holiday Meals: AAOM. Call (734) 662-5805 in advance.

Home Hospitality and Meals: Chabad. Every Shabbat and Holiday. Call (734) 995-3276 in advance.

Frequently listed Organizations:

Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan (AAOM)
1429 Hill Street 994-5822
Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation (AARC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 913-9705
Beth Israel Congregation (BIC)
2000 Washtenaw Ave. 665-9897
Chabad House
715 Hill Street 995-3276
Jewish Community Center (JCC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 971-0990
Jewish Cultural Society (JCS)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 975-9872
Jewish Family Services (JFS)
2245 South State Street 769-0209
Jewish Federation
2939 Birch Hollow Drive 677-0100
Pardes Hannah
2010 Washtenaw Ave. 761-5324
Temple Beth Emeth (TBE)
2309 Packard Road 665-4744
UM Hillel
1429 Hill Street 769-0500

Shabbat Candlelighting

February 1	5:31 pm
February 8	5:40 pm
February 15	5:49 pm
February 22	5:58 pm

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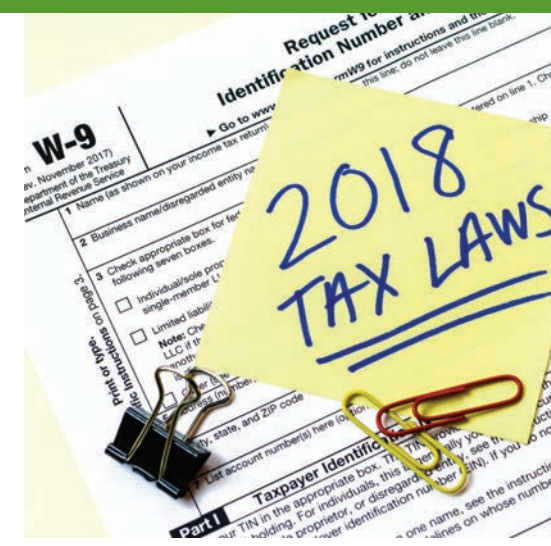

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Vitals

Mazal tov

Zeb Siegel on his bar mitzvah, February 9
Jonah Klein on his bar mitzvah, February 16.
Charles Cascalho Platt on his bar mitzvah, February 23.
Micah Jacobson on his Bar Mitzvah, February 23.
Adam & Sheri Horwitz on the birth of their son, Jacob Aaron Horwitz.
Larry & Elayne Tyner on the birth of their granddaughter, Talia Danielle Tyner-Hayes, daughter of Emily Tyner & Shaun Hayes.

Condolences

Keith Kurz and family on the death of his father, Alvin Matthew Kurz, October 18
Johnny Rodriguez on the death of his father, Emilio Suarez, November 24.
Happy Feigelson on the death of her husband, Louis Feigelson, December 5.
Sarah Raful (Rabbi Josh) Whinston on the death of her grandmother, Susy Raful, December 6.
Joel and Tom Harary on the death of their mother, Jayne Harary, December 7.
Jodi Wallo on the death of her uncle, Roy Vanek, December 24.
Keith Alexander on the death of his mother, Hannah Etta Freedland, January 1.
Lauren (Adam) Linkner and Natalie Levy on the death of their mother, Linda Levy, January 3.

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JUNE 24- AUG. 2

9:00-3:45

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AFTER CARE: 3:45-5:45PM

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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